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U.S., USSR RESUME GENEVA TALKS ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS BAN

LD061304Y Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 6, TASS--Negotiations resumed here today between delegations of the USSR and the United States on prohibition of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction and in this context the prohibition of radiological weapons.

Representatives of the USSR and the United States at the Disarmament Committee, Ambassador V. Likhachev and Ambassador A. Fisher, lead respective delegations.

WORLD PUBLIC BACKS USSR EFFORT TO END ARMS RACE, FOR DISARMAMENT

LD061309Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Peoples Against the Arms Race"]

[Text] The people's demand is heard more resolutely every day. Halt the arms race, stop the creation of new means of mass destruction and above all abandon the dangerous plans to produce the neutron bomb.

The insidious designs of the militarists of the United States and other Western countries are in blatant contradiction with the most urgent task of contemporary international relations: to supplement political detente with military detente. The implementation of these designs may lead to an increased threat of a new war, a threat which has been pushed back as a result of the struggle of peace-loving forces, as a result of the vigorous actions of the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community in the international arena. The Leninist foreign policy of the USSR and its allies is finding growing support in the world.

Positive steps are being made within the UN framework. The 32d session of the UN General Assembly adopted a declaration on deepening and consolidating the relaxation of international tension, the basis of which is a Soviet draft. The other day a preparatory committee on convening a special UN General Assembly disarmament session began work in New York. As the working document issued by the committee shows, the overwhelming majority of UN members came out in favor of ending the arms race and of disarmament, above all nuclear disarmament.

These same aims define the meetings which have taken place in the American capital between members of the WPC Bureau and U.S. political and public figures, and the decisions of 13 sessions of the WPC Bureau with the participation of representatives of 40 countries. The leading organ of this mass public organization adopted the "Washington peace declaration." In the second half of January 1978 a national assembly for peace and disarmament was held in Britain. Scientists from 18 European countries took part in a symposium organized in Vienna on the theme: "Ways to achieve a universal ban on the development and production of new types and systems of mass-destruction weapons."

All these events show that in the purposeful struggle against the arms race the unity of all who value peace is growing stronger.

The broadest worldwide responses were evoked by the new Soviet proposals on disarmament, advanced on behalf of our party and people by L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The Soviet Union attaches great significance to the successful completion of the Soviet-American talks on a new strategic arms limitation agreement. As for other disarmament problems, the USSR proposes first of all agreement on the simultaneous ending by all countries of nuclear weapons production. At the same time the nuclear states could pledge to begin gradually reducing reserves of existing stockpiles of these weapons, right up to their complete elimination. The Soviet leadership has expressed readiness to reach an agreement on declaring a moratorium on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes in tandem with a ban on all nuclear weapons tests for a definite period.

The Soviet Union spares no effort to halt the arms race and to advance the cause of disarmament. However, something else must not be ignored: In the West, the militarists are active in the United States and in NATO. At their insistence the arms buildup and the growth of military budgets are continuing. These trends are acquiring increasingly dangerous forms. Naturally, the Soviet Union is effectively concerned about its own defense. Here, however, our country is not seeking and will not seek military supremacy over the other side. But the other side must operate in the same spirit.

Yet what is happening? Under the cover of false talk about a "Soviet threat" increasing financial and material resources are being thrown into the arms race and ever new types of mass-destruction weapons are being developed. A particular danger is posed by the criminal fuss surrounding that barbaric offspring of imperialism, the neutron bomb. The American military is demanding that it be produced and deployed in West Europe. The authors of this plan are trying to conceal the nature of the neutron bomb, wrongly attributing a "humane nature" to it on the "grounds" that it destroys "only" living things. Tens of millions of people throughout the world reject this deceit with disgust and say a resolute "No to the neutron bomb!"

The movement against the neutron bomb is being transformed before our eyes into a really mass movement. Sober voices also sound in the United States itself, even in the Congress. The small NATO countries--the Netherlands, Norway, Denmark and Iceland--have let it be understood that they do not want this new barbaric weapon to be deployed on their territory. The other West European members of the North Atlantic bloc are still preferring to avoid a final decision.

One cannot overestimate the significance of L.I. Brezhnev's warning in his replies to a PRAVDA correspondent. The Soviet Union is absolutely against the creation of the neutron bomb. "But if this bomb is created in the West--and it is created against us, which no one even conceals," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stated, "then they must clearly understand that the USSR will not remain a passive observer. We will be faced with the need to reply to this challenge with the aim of insuring the security of the Soviet people and their allies and friends."

The peoples have assessed on its merits the humaneness of the USSR's proposal to agree on mutual rejection of the production of the neutron bomb. People of the whole world want peace, firm and lasting peace. The Soviet disarmament proposals fully meet these lofty, noble aspirations.

POLISH MBFR ENVOY: WEST DELIBERATELY COMPLICATING TALKS

LDO31117Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent I. Melnikov dispatch: "Realism and Good Will Are Needed"]

[Text] Vienna, 1 February--Delegations from 19 states, participants in the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, yesterday took their seats once again in the Redoubt Hall of the Hofburg after a 6-week recess. The 14th round opened with a plenary session, which was addressed by T. Strulak, head of the Polish delegation, and Canadian delegation head Cox.

After the end of the session your correspondent asked the Polish delegation head to comment on positions which had taken shape by the start of the latest round of the Vienna talks.

"It has to be pointed out," Ambassador Tadeusz Strulak said, "that the opening of the present round has coincided with a unique anniversary: Exactly 5 years ago the participants in the preparatory consultations met in Vienna for the first time. In the space of 6 months they determined that the aim of the talks was the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms, agreed on the question of potential participants in the future talks, defined the region of troop reduction and formulated the procedure for the talks. Finally, it was fixed that the future agreement must not harm the security of any of the sides. In other words, the start of the Vienna dialog was businesslike and the socialist participants, wanting to preserve and develop this constructive style, were invariably true to their adopted pledges and repeatedly launched joint initiatives which took into account the interests of their Western partners. The NATO delegations, on the other hand, have by their actions in Vienna nullified the principles agreed on at the preliminary consultations."

The Polish delegation head enumerated elements in the West's stand which are preventing progress at the talks. There is the unrealistic and far from objective evaluation of facts, which results in nonrecognition of the approximate equality in the correlation of the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact and NATO states. There is the desire of the West European participants to avoid being involved in reductions. Finally, there is the refusal by all Western participants to reduce or limit air forces or indeed arms, including nuclear arms. In short, the NATO side is deliberately complicating the talks, seeking to impose on the socialist states a scheme which would work in just one direction--to produce mercenary advantages for the West. As is known, this tendency has recently been reinforced by practical measures in NATO circles. Military potential is being built up in Western Europe, and insistent attempts are being made to secure the neutron bomb. The appearance of this kind of weapon of mass destruction would certainly not improve the atmosphere at the talks, and therefore all the socialist delegations in Vienna firmly and unanimously support the proposal advanced by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev that the Western states agree to mutual renunciation of production of the neutron bomb.

"The acceleration of progress at the Vienna talks," the Polish delegation head declared in conclusion, "would be very significant for the cause of military detente on the European Continent and throughout the world. Life itself insistently demands that the search for ways to a constructive dialog be continued. As for the socialist states, they sincerely want progress to be made at the talks and are working toward this end."

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
CSCE/MBFR

EUROPEAN SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DISCUSSES BELGRADE TALKS

LD051508Y Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 5 Feb 78 LD

["For a Realistic Approach" --TASS headline]

[Text] Belgrade, February 5, TASS--We believe that common sense and a realistic approach will triumph at the Belgrade meeting and that its participants will express good will for a further consolidation of security and cooperation in the European Continent, Canon R. Goor, chairman of the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation, laureate of the international Lenin Prize "for the strengthening of peace among nations", said in an interview with Soviet journalists. Canon R. Goor visited the Belgrade forum at the head of the committee's delegation. A final document of the meeting, in his view, must be aimed at consolidating the process of detente in Europe and at implementing all the accords of the final act of the Helsinki conference of the 33 European countries, the USA and Canada. In the drafting of a final document, one must approach the Helsinki document as a balanced single whole, giving no preference to any individual sections of it and, the less so, to one of them.

Canon R. Goor spoke of a large amount of work which the committee and the national member organizations are doing to develop mutual understanding and friendship among peoples, thereby promoting the realization of the final act. He said the committee sent out a letter to all trade-union organizations of European countries, calling on the working people to combine their efforts to ensure security and develop cooperation in Europe. The committee's delegation met in Belgrade with representatives of many countries participating in the forum and told them about the European public positions on main matters connected with the deepening of the process of detente and the strengthening of security and peace in the continent.

At its next meeting our committee, R. Goor said, will take up the study of the question of disarmament. This is quite a pressing problem, since a very large amount of weapons has been concentrated in Europe, and there exists a danger of emergence of new weapons still more horrible for mankind. European states' responsibility for ending the arms race should be enhanced.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

LD040036Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1015 GMT 3 Feb 78 LD

["International Situation--Questions and Answers" program introduced by Valeriy Kosovan with Vsevolod Nikolayevich Sofinskiy, chief of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Department; London correspondent Boris Kalyagin; and Georgiy Ilich Mirskiy, professor of history.]

Horn of Africa

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] Good day, Comrades! Most of your letters are devoted to events in the Horn of Africa. Here to answer you, Comrades, is Vsevolod Nikolayevich Sofinskiy, head of the Press Department in the USSR Foreign Ministry. Over to you, Vsevolod Nikolayevich.

[Sofinskiy] As you know, the Somali leaders started extensive aggressive operations against revolutionary Ethiopia last summer. To start with, these operations involved infiltrating into Ethiopia specially trained subversive terrorist groups which carried out sabotage and subversion and terrorized the population. At the end of July the Somali leaders, under the cover of what they called the Western Somali Liberation Front, which they themselves had set up, introduced major contingents of regular forces into Ethiopia, including tanks, heavy artillery and aircraft. These were the forces which initiated the extensive combat operations to seize Ethiopian territory.

The current events in the Horn of Africa result directly from a plot between the imperialist powers, above all the United States, and the reactionary Arab regimes. The aim of this plot is to strike at the revolutionary regimes in the Red Sea basin. The Horn of Africa is primarily a region of military-political and economic importance. The importance of the region lies in its geographic location at the meeting point of two continents, Asia and Africa and in its wonderful seaports in the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean. Its importance is primarily due to the fact that it is crossed by the highly important searoutes linking the oil-producing countries with America and Europe. They carry 70 percent of the raw materials imported into Western Europe.

The imperialist powers' strategy in the region is based on the ambition to secure an uninterrupted supply of oil to the West via the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. In order to maintain control of these very important sea routes, the United States and the other imperialist powers are attempting in that region to form an alliance of reactionary Arab regimes, based on Saudi Arabia's financial might, to overthrow the revolutionary and democratic regime in Ethiopia and to wrest Eritrea from Ethiopia, setting up a new reactionary, vassal Islamic state there.

The externally inspired separatist movement in Eritrea, which hopes to separate that coastal province from Ethiopia, has been intensified, despite the fact that Eritrea has always been part of Ethiopia. According to Ethiopian historians, this region was even the cradle of Ethiopian civilization and played a leading role in the preservation of the economic and political bonds which insured the country's unity for hundreds of years.

Our press and official statements have already explained why the Somali regime, which originally proclaimed progressive principles in its domestic and foreign policy, has embarked upon a path of aggression and has become a tool of the imperialist forces and the reactionary Arab regimes, playing the part of strangler of the Ethiopian revolution and also jeopardizing the Somali people's progressive achievements. Chauvinistic and expansionist ambitions have gained the upper hand among the Somali leaders.

[Kosovan] It is relevant, Vsevolod Nikolayevich, to say that plans to create a greater Somalia were never far from their minds, and that these plans included seizing parts of neighboring states. After all, Somalia lays claim not only to Ethiopian territory but also to the northern parts of Kenya and the Republic of Djibouti.

[Sofinskiy] As time went on those moods became ever stronger. And the Somali leaders' chauvinism has been used by the imperialist powers and the reactionary Arab regimes which act in tandem with them. They started inciting and encouraging the Somali leadership to attack Ethiopia and promised their support in implementing the plans to create a greater Somalia. They did everything to convince the Somali leaders that Ethiopia is now an unprecedentedly easy target for Somali attack and that there would possibly never again be such a good opportunity.

[Kosovan] What is the situation in the Horn of Africa now, Vsevolod Nikolayevich?

[Sofinskiy] The situation is still complex. The Somali forces have seized a large part of Ethiopian territory. They have penetrated 700 kilometers in the eastern and 300 kilometers in the southern parts of Ethiopia. And attempts are also being made to expand the aggression. The military operations are costing thousands of human lives and inflicting enormous material damage estimated at hundreds of millions of birr--the Ethiopian currency unit.

At present, however, the Somali onslaught on the Ogaden has been stopped--calculations of a lightning rout of Ethiopia have obviously collapsed. The Somali Army is suffering heavy losses and is demoralized; according to press reports, mass desertion has started. Revolutionary Ethiopia has withstood attacks by a multitude of external and internal foes and is fully determined to defend its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

[Kosovan] After their failure to break the people's will by armed aggression, what are Ethiopia's enemies doing now?

[Sofinskiy] They have started a psychological and propaganda war to paint a completely distorted picture of the events in the Horn of Africa for world public opinion. President Siad Barre of Somalia has made completely absurd allegations that the USSR and the other socialist countries are preparing an invasion of Somalia. Through the Arab League, he has sent the Arab heads of state a message which is full of slanderous attacks on the USSR and the other socialist countries. Note that he sent his message to the Arab states, the Arab League, but not the Organization of African Unity. He knows full well that the African countries do not support the Somali aggression: They condemn that aggression, and the OAU has done much to find a peaceful solution to this conflict.

The Ethiopian weekly YE ZAREITU ITYIOPIYA has called the Somali leaders' absurd charges against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries a smokescreen of slander. Nonetheless, the Somali leaders' slanderous fabrications have been taken up in the United States and other Western countries which are trying to justify their support for the Somali aggression. Extremely timely in this regard was the TASS statement on the situation in the region of the Horn of Africa, which exposed the fabrications of Somali and Western propaganda as pure fantasy. The Soviet leadership has repeatedly drawn the Somali leaders' attention to the inadmissibility and danger of attempts to solve territorial issues by arms and especially to the inadmissibility of the introduction of forces to the Ogaden. When, in the face of common sense, the Somali leaders nonetheless started their military adventure against Ethiopia, the Soviet Union--as it always does in such cases--took the side of the victim of aggression, proceeding from the principles which are the tenets of its foreign policy. At the Ethiopian Government's request, the Soviet Union is giving it the material and technical assistance needed to rebuff the aggression. That assistance is determined exclusively by Ethiopian defense requirements.

[Kosovan] Vsevolod Nikolayevich, what position are the Western powers adopting on this issue?

[Sofinskiy] Their position can be described as encouraging even more aggression. The NATO countries and the reactionary Arab regimes are giving the Somali expansionist circles extensive assistance and supply modern arms to escalate the aggressive war against Ethiopia. This is irrefutably demonstrated by the testimony of prisoners and the trophies seized in battle on the eastern front. During the recent battle in the vicinity of the towns of Harar and Jijiga, the Ethiopian Armed Forces seized a large number of American rifles, some of which reached Somalia from Pakistan, Italian-made tanks and mortars, NATO mortars, anti-tank guns, machineguns and communications equipment.

All the information indicates that the secret agreement reached in Washington by the United States, Britain, France, Italy and the FRG--the leading NATO countries--which is aimed at strangling the Ethiopian revolution by supplying the Somali aggressors with arms, is being implemented. In his recent statement, the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, Mengistu Haile Mariam, emphasized that the purpose of this Washington meeting between representatives of the United States, Britain, France, Italy and the FRG was to coordinate their efforts in support of the Somali aggression. He stressed that it was the governments of those countries which would bear the responsibility for the consequences of their own actions and for the events taking place in the Horn of Africa.

The only, final settlement of the problem that will guarantee peace is the immediate withdrawal of Somali forces from Ethiopian territory. This position is shared by the entire progressive world opinion and by the Soviet people.

Neutron Bomb

[Kosovan] We continue to answer your questions, comrades. Some questions concern the neutron bomb.

The cold war gave birth to the idea of creating such a nuclear weapon of mass destruction. American atomic scientists began laboratory work on it in 1958. The principle of neutron weapons became a sort of piece de resistance of the program, in which everyone was interested, from President Eisenhower, to the Atomic Energy Commission. In the spring of 1963 the first version of the neutron charge was tested at the Nevada test site. Physicist Harold Brown, now U.S. secretary of defense, and Herbert York, now an adviser to the Pentagon, worked on the first neutron bomb project.

The neutron bomb is a third generation atomic weapon. It shares the strike factors of a nuclear charge: a shock wave, thermal and light radiation and penetrating radiation. Moreover the radiation is 10 times greater than that of a nuclear charge of the same capacity. Neutron weapons have, within their zone of action, all the destructive effects of normal nuclear weapons. The U.S. military-industrial complex has an interest in modernizing any weapons, including nuclear weapons. This shows the essence of monopolistic capital and its nature.

The following fact is not without interest: In 1976 the Pentagon handed out to the corporations military orders worth \$42 billion. Rockwell International, the Bendix Corporation and Monsanto are preparing to get rich on products like the neutron bomb. These are regular Pentagon suppliers. Despite the apparent difference in their names, the profits from the neutron warhead business will go into the safes of the American multi-millionaires, the Du Ponts, the Morgans and the Mellons. The funds and efforts expended on the neutron bomb demand a return. The military-industrial complex is in a hurry.

They would like to put the neutron bomb into production this year. There is already a plan to deploy this bomb in Western Europe within the next 18 months. The U.S. Congress has approved funds for the production of the neutron bomb. The President should soon make a final decision on the question of production of the neutron bomb, and administration representatives have repeatedly stressed that this will depend to a large extent on the opinion of the United States' NATO partners in Western Europe, where, as you know, a powerful protest movement against this monstrous weapon of mass extermination has begun.

Therefore the West European governments, which are members of NATO, are not in a great hurry to reply, and American diplomacy is currently engaged in its traditional habit of twisting its allies' arms, demanding that they agree more quickly to the deployment of the neutron bomb on their territory.

British Angolan Mercenaries

[Kosovan] A great deal is known about the recruitment of mercenaries in the West for the struggle against the national-liberation movement, Comrade (Gayfulin) from Kazan writes. Comrade (Gayfulin) asks whether there is any evidence that this shameful practice is continuing.

We acquainted our London correspondent Boris Kalyagin with your question, comrade Gayfulin. This is what he had to say:

[Kalyagin] The notorious word "mercenaries" has again cropped up in the British press. The British Foreign Office has been forced to issue an official statement that the recruitment is taking place in British territory of mercenaries for the army of the reactionary National Front for the Liberation of Angola [FNLA], which was routed in Angola. After a crushing defeat at the hands of patriotic forces the remnants of this army and its ringleader, Holden Roberto, found refuge in neighboring Zaire. There, with funds from Western intelligence services and donations from Peking, they are again preparing subversive actions against the independent Angolan Republic.

Everything indicates that rightwing circles in the West have not yet written off these bankrupt puppets. The recent sensational revelations about the links between the FNLA leaders and the leadership of the British Conservative Party are particular evidence of this. It has been learned that John Davies, the Tory shadow foreign secretary, has had meetings with representatives of Angolan counterrevolutionaries and their recruiters in Britain. The meetings were kept secret, but this Westminster secret was revealed by one Donald Belfort, who calls himself the FNLA envoy in London. Donald Belfort and former mercenary John Banks are, according to the newspapers, two of the main recruiters in Britain of easy-profit lovers for the bands of the Angolan splitters. When the press learned of this sensational report about secret meetings the shadow minister had to admit that they did indeed take place a month ago. Davies claimed: We met simply to have a talk about their struggle. He was clearly attempting to put a good face on the matter. He alleged that he had no idea that a recruiter of mercenaries was at the meeting. However, the very fact of the existence of secret collusion between the leadership of the Conservatives and Angolan counterrevolutionary rabble makes one doubt the sincerity of these assurances.

One thing is clear. There is a whole network for the recruitment of present-day mercenaries functioning in Britain and it enjoys the patronage of influential circles. The recruiters of human lives are not stingy with money.

According to existing official information mercenaries, recruited in Britain, will shortly be sent to Angola, where they will take part in FNLA terrorist raids. It is characteristic that the British Foreign Office is again having to make a statement on this sensitive issue.

Recently London had to warn of a possible attempt by British mercenaries on the life of the president of Togo. The British Foreign Office statement condemned the recruitment of British citizens, but at the same time admitted that it does not violate British law. It turns out that the Labor Government, which has repeatedly emphasized efforts to develop friendly relations with the new African states, is unable to prevent reactionary circles from recruiting British subjects to undermine the positions of progressive African governments or to support rotten racist regimes.

The British democratic public is calling for resolute measures to end this shameful phenomenon and for a legal ban on the recruitment of mercenaries on British soil.

Middle East Situation

[Kosovan] And now let us turn to events in the Near East. Letters on this subject ask: What is the sense of As-Sadat's behavior? Why does he send his foreign minister to Israel where a session of the Egyptian-Israeli political committee has begun? Why does he agree to hold negotiations in Cairo at the military committee level? In general, what is happening to the widely publicized As-Sadat peace initiative? Prof Georgiy Ilich Mirskiy, doctor of history, who is taking part in our program, will speak. Georgiy Ilich, if you please.

[Mirskiy] Indeed, the impression is created that As-Sadat is rushing around. It is generally clear that he has suffered a failure in his truly widely-publicized mission. But he does not admit this. In the first place, it is awkward to admit that he has been twisted round someone else's finger. On the other hand, certain papers reported that As-Sadat, on the eve of his visit to Israel, told President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria that he would resign if he failed. So far though, it does not look as if he is ready to resort to so drastic a measure. But what is really the sense of all his maneuvers? In the first place, I think As-Sadat is playing for time. The talks are bogged down, of course. They have been stuck in virtually the same place for 2 months. But there is always something new. Now, we are invited to wait until he has been to the United States. There, perhaps, something can be cleared up. Every time there is some new pretext to play for time, to drag things out, and maybe something might turn up.

[Kosovan] Georgiy Ilich, how is this procrastination being explained to the Egyptian people?

[Mirskiy] In general, the Egyptians are being assured that there is only a bit more to be done, and then there will be peace--peace, money, dollars, prosperity. As-Sadat is gambling on the fact that the Egyptian people are tired of war, of tension, of military expenditure. As-Sadat is in fact gambling on the mood of the average man. We are Egyptians, we have problems enough of our own, we are not concerned with pulling other people's chestnuts out of the fire, and so on. He is trying to resurrect an Egyptian, narrow, local nationalism to the detriment of pan-Arab nationalism, which, until now, was the consciousness that Egypt is part of the overall Arab nation, which has been subjected to aggression. Egypt's affairs are now supposed to be the concern of only one country. Indeed, As-Sadat first recalled his delegation then gave permission for holding negotiations in the military committee.

To some extent this looks like a charade, a charade of pressure on Israel. But in general, there are no real levers of pressure. After all, As-Sadat has weakened himself. He has deprived himself of practically all strong arguments. As some observers write, he has in general been playing out a bluff. The bluff was called, and when the cards were laid on the table, it proved that Begin's cards were stronger. Really, As-Sadat has no one but himself to blame for this.

[Mirskiy] As-Sadat is to visit several countries. The most important thing about this tour, of course, will be his meeting with Carter. And As-Sadat will naturally complain that Begin has not lived up to expectations, not even if one refers to purely Egyptian-Israeli relations, the deal on the Sinai Peninsula. Here it turns out that As-Sadat is really in a bad way. Israel does not want to remove the Jewish settlements even from the Sinai Peninsula. The Israeli hawks do not want to make the slightest concessions, to give way on anything at all. In these conditions, even a separate peace is impossible. Naturally he will speak plainly to Carter about this.

What sort of prospects are there? One of two. Either to admit the failure of the whole initiative--but this would threaten the As-Sadat regime itself. A correspondent of the Italian paper L'UNITA wrote, that immediately following As-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem, there was confusion and even fear in U.S. political circles in the near future this might suddenly end in the fall of As-Sadat and the collapse of his regime. Certain U.S. policy experts believed that politically this would practically amount to the beginning of the end of the Carter administration. To lose Egypt, to lose such a bridgehead in the Near East, would amount to the general collapse of U.S. positions in that part of the world. Naturally, As-Sadat will use this in his negotiations with Carter. The sense of his argument will be that the United States will not be able to have anything better than him and his regime so he must not be allowed to go. (For this would mean the) failure of the whole initiative, which is bad for America.

If Begin makes concessions on the Sinai settlements which I have already mentioned, that would mean there could be a separate peace treaty. But there are also great complications involved in this, because all this would surely be looked on in the Arab world as the final treachery and would naturally give rise to increased anti-American feeling. In brief, the Americans have joined in the Egyptian-Israeli negotiation process, have undertaken the role of a middleman, a patron, so naturally any official separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel would be looked on in the Arab world precisely as having been achieved with the blessing of the United States, under the aegis of Washington.

Therefore, As-Sadat would certainly like to pull off the third variant, namely the appearance, I stress the appearance, of a solution of the Palestinian problem. This is what I have in mind: an illusory solution but one which would enable the impression to be created that As-Sadat had achieved some progress on the main question, the Palestinian one. So if some apparent, I repeat apparent, shift in this question should take place, then As-Sadat could consider that he had escaped a dangerous situation. In general, he does not conceal that he would prefer to hand the West Bank over to Jordan. What would this mean?

It would mean that the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, would find itself completely out of the picture, excluded from the whole game. The PLO would be circumvented. This would mean in effect, a renunciation of the Palestinian state. As-Sadat is agreeable to this. This is As-Sadat's capitulationist, anti-Palestinian, anti-Arab line. And in this at least Washington and Israel agree with As-Sadat, in not wanting to permit the creation of a Palestinian state. Some kind of puppet regime must be set up, some sort of pseudo-Palestinian formation that would make it possible to say that the Palestinian problem had been solved, that there had been some progress on this question.

[Kosovan] What, one asks, is the difference between As-Sadat and Begin, then?

[Mirskiy] The difference is that, as I said, As-Sadat wants some sort of vassal state formation on the West Bank under Jordanian rule. Whereas Begin wants it to be under the control of Israel. And here I think might be one of the main tasks for As-Sadat in the United States: to turn Carter toward the plan of handing over the West Bank to Jordanian control even with the retention of Israeli settlements--a sort of half-hearted compromise, in general an illusory solution to the question. He must incline Carter toward this solution so that Carter will pressure Begin.

However, American observers believe that the chances of American pressure being exerted on Israel are small, especially this year with the mid-term congressional elections due. With the problem of the Zionist organizations, which always play such an active part in elections, this becomes very significant. It is believed that U.S. economic assistance to Israel could not possibly be stopped, least of all this year. It is hardly credible that military assistance could be stopped either. But it should be said that even if Washington were to halt its military assistance to Israel, over the years the Americans have given the Israelis so many weapons, worth something over \$3 billion that they would last for several years, Western observers believe. So with all this, As-Sadat's chances are not rated highly, and Western observers are now inclined to be far less optimistic than they were 2 months ago, or even a month ago. Expressions such as "take care, let's wait, we will see what we will see," prevail. And as far as the sessions of the military committee are concerned, its work is completely on ice at present, while As-Sadat confers with Carter.

[Kosovan] Georgiy Ilich, what is the significance of the summit meeting in Algiers, the meeting of the heads of Arab states belonging to the so-called rejectionist front?

[Mirskiy] In connection with the quite obvious blind alley which has come about as a result of the so-called As-Sadat peace mission, all the progressive forces in the Arab world striving for a just solution of the Palestinian problem and the problem of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole of course need to work out some kind of alternative course. This is the point. A constructive program is needed. This is called the rejectionist front. Indeed, these are the states which have sharply opposed the treacherous capitulationist line of As-Sadat: Algeria, Libya, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the PLO. But, of course, rejection in itself does not amount to a positive program. This is the point. Some kind of constructive plan is needed, some plan of action, the mobilization of the Arab masses, a clear political course. This is apparently what they are concerned with at present in Algiers at this conference of leaders of the states which reject the separatist course of As-Sadat.

As a starting point, obviously, there is the need for a comprehensive settlement. In this respect, we must once again conclude that, after all, the Geneva conference remains the best variant. The way to it is, of course, difficult at present, but there is no alternative in sight. And certain Western observers consider that possibly the only good to emerge from the As-Sadat initiative will result from the fact that the more false and illusory variants of the solution of the Near East conflict are exposed and fall by the wayside, the more inevitable becomes the real, cardinal solution, the solution the Soviet Union has always supported, which is based on the withdrawal of Israel forces from the territories occupied in 1967, the solution of the Palestinian problem through the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to create their own state, and safeguarding the rights of all states of the region to live in peace and security.

THIRD UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE SESSION CONCLUDED

LDO32052Y Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 3 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 3 TASS--(TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin). The third session of the U.N. Human Rights Committee, which was established in conformity with the international covenant on civil and political rights, has closed in the Geneva Palace of Nations today. The main objective of the committee is to examine the reports on the implementation of its provisions by the states-parties to the covenant.

In examining the reports of the GDR and Czechoslovakia, many members of the committee noted that it is precisely in the socialist states that civil and political rights are ensured most fully, as there are social and economic conditions for their realization.

In the course of the reports by Britain, Sweden and Denmark, a number of committee members cited specific examples showing that many provisions of the international covenant, in particular those concerning the prohibition of war propaganda, racial discrimination as well as equality of women, are not observed in these countries.

Many members of the U.N. Human Rights Committee specially noted violations of human rights in Northern Ireland, as well as the openly racist policy of British immigration authorities. They also placed in record that in Britain and Sweden the police has excessively wide repressive powers, which enables it to violate the inviolability of person and home. The committee refused to examine the report presented by the Chilean military junta as it was of a clearly hypocritical character and did not reflect the real situation in present-day Chile.

The next session of the U.N. Human Rights Committee is scheduled to be held in New York in July this year. The international covenant on civil and human rights has been ratified by 45 states, including the Soviet Union. The United States, in spite of its demagogic campaign "in defence of human rights" has failed to ratify it until now.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON U.S. VISIT OF EGYPT'S AS-SADAT

Carter-As-Sadat 'Discrepancies'

LDO71019Y Moscow PRAVDA 'n Russian 5 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Ye. Rusakov article: "Delusive Hopes"]

[Text] New York--Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat has arrived in Washington for talks with U.S. President J. Carter. In a speech on the south lawn in front of the White House the Egyptian president called on the United States to assume the role of "arbiter" in the Egyptian-Israeli separate talks. The head of the American administration, who in the words of the New York TIMES, "sought to occupy a neutral position," passed over as-Sadat's appeal in silence, confining himself to a statement on the need to "reactivate efforts" in the Egyptian-Israeli talks, which, as is well known, are deadlocked. According to the New York TIMES' assessment, the exchange of speeches on the south lawn "underlined the discrepancies in the positions of Carter and As-Sadat." Thus it became clear from the start that As-Sadat's hopes for Washington's role as "savior" of the stalled Egyptian-Israeli talks are comparatively delusive.

Immediately after the White House ceremony Carter whisked his Egyptian guest away to his Camp David retreat. Contrary to the custom here, American reporters and cameramen were not allowed at the place where the talks were held. The whole of the Catocin National Park, in which Camp David is located, is surrounded by a tight police cordon. This is unusual in terms of the political publicity which permeates all Washington life, but it is believed here that it has a definite practical purpose. The New York TIMES notes "High-ranking American officials wanted thereby to persuade him (As-Sadat) to pursue a more moderate course, inasmuch as otherwise he might miscalculate." "The danger for the Carter administration lies in the fact that the Egyptian leader, in his successful propaganda campaign, has given birth to excessive hopes that he could almost call on Washington to achieve a speedy breakthrough by insisting on Israeli concessions at the talks," the newspaper adds. The New York DAILY NEWS writes that Washington will hardly agree to As-Sadat's appeals to exert pressure on Israel and advises the Egyptian president "to stifle his impatience and renounce unexpected sensational gestures such as the cessation of the talks in Jerusalem."

The start of the visit promises As-Sadat little. The Egyptian president's last "trump card" has, by all appearances, been covered. The recent ending of the Egyptian-Israeli talks in Jerusalem proves once more that Israel's position has not changed one iota. Washington's "pressure" on Israel amounted to the American side adjusting its position and Egypt's position on key aspects of the problem to fit Israeli standards.

In an attempt to escape the public shame and humiliation to which Begin subjected the Egyptian delegates at the Jerusalem talks As-Sadat was obliged to break off these talks. But he still retains illusions concerning the effectiveness of separate deals with Israel and Washington's ability to convince Begin of the need to acknowledge even a semblance of concessions on the territorial and Palestinian questions.

Talks End; Begin Remarks

LDO61834Y Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

["Separate Course Continues"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, February 6 TASS--Talks between President Carter of the USA and the Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat have ended at Camp David.

Official reports have shed little light on what took place in the President's country residence. Correspondents point out that As-Sadat looked "gloomy and guarded" after the talks and refused to address a press conference scheduled earlier. This is viewed as evidence that his transatlantic voyage has not matched his expectations. Official Cairo, it is noted here, hoped that James Carter would influence Tel Aviv to induce it to meet As-Sadat's wish to get at least "cosmetic" concessions from Israel in order to justify in the public eye the defeatist course of the Egyptian leadership.

The U.S. President, however, made it clear to As-Sadat that the United States has no intention to change its policy vis-a-vis Israel. The New York DAILY NEWS newspaper writes that James Carter is very sensitive to the political power wielded by the Israeli lobby in the USA, notably in Congress, and therefore has no wish to bring pressure on Israel.

The New York TIMES, citing the participants in the talks, writes that the United States did not support the Arab demands for the return by Israel of all occupied territories and declared it could not approve Palestinian self-determination.

To camouflage the defeatist character, for Egypt, of the Israeli-Egyptian deal, the United States reportedly expressed readiness to partially meet As-Sadat's request for the delivery to Egypt of a batch of American "F-5E" fighter planes while simultaneously increasing modern arms supplies to Israel. Observers note that the decision to sell American fighter planes to Egypt is designed to induce As-Sadat to make further concessions to Tel Aviv.

Following the Camp David meetings, the White House published a lengthy statement representing the U.S. declaration of intent to speed the separate talks.

While it is unclear from the statement how Washington intends to go about solving the Middle East problem, it is clear that the road is to bypass the Geneva peace conference which is the sole universally recognized institute that could comprehensively solve all the problems of the Middle East knot.

Although the Cairo leaders for their part would have the world believe that the convening of the Geneva conference remains the chief aim of the Egyptian diplomatic efforts while the current Egyptian-Israeli talks are merely a preparation for the conference, all this talk is no more than a smokescreen designed to conceal the separatist character of the deal being prepared. As the U.S. envisages, the Geneva conference, if it is after all convened, should merely endorse the deal made in the course of the separate talks between Israel and Egypt. This is completely at odds with the way the Geneva conference was conceived by the Arab countries and the Soviet Union. All this shows a clear desire to "solve" the Middle East problem in the American-Israeli way.

New York, February 6 TASS--Israel, supported by the United States, continues to toughen its stand. Israel's Prime Minister Begin declared yesterday in an interview with the Miami HERALD newspaper that no fine phrases and threats would force Israel to agree to the demand on pulling out from all occupied territories and granting the right to self-determination to the Palestine Arab people. These demands, he stressed, "have never been and will never be acceptable for Israel." He said in Tel Aviv that Israel set up 16 militarized settlements on the occupied West Bank of the Jordan in the last six months.

Baghdad, February 6 TASS--The TARIQ ASH-SHA'B newspaper views talks in Camp David as As-Sadat's new step along the road to capitulation.

The Camp David meeting, writes the paper, would lead to further concessions to Israel and As-Sadat apparently is prepared for that in order to save his "peace initiatives" and keep Washington's support.

The Arab press notes that As-Sadat's policy in openly aligning himself with Tel Aviv and Washington has seriously complicated the struggle for undoing the consequences of the Israeli aggression. The question now is merely how far As-Sadat would carry his defeatism in conceding positions to the detriment of the Arabs.

Newspapers stress the need for unity among the progressive Arab forces as the key factor in the struggle against the Israeli aggression and for securing the legitimate rights of the Palestine Arab people.

Tone of 'Communique'

LD061442Y Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1130 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The American and Egyptian presidents have had talks in Camp David in the United States. James Carter and Anwar as-Sadat discussed the Middle East and the bilateral relations. A communique on the meeting is confined to general phrases on improving mutual understanding between the sides. In the opinion of observers, As-Sadat's hopes for a change in Washington's position have proved groundless. It was announced after the talks in Camp David that the assistant secretary of state, Atherton, will make another trip to the Middle East shortly. It is believed he will try to persuade Egypt to conclude a separate deal with Israel.

Implementing 'Existing Principles'

LD070844Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2303 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 7 February--Commenting on the White House statement on the meetings of the presidents of the U.S. and Egypt, Yuriy Glukhov writes in PRAVDA today that they have resulted in increased efforts to speed up the process of the Egyptian-Israeli talks which had become deadlocked. With this in mind, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Atherton will again leave for the Near East to "work out a final programed declaration," "a declaration of principles" of a Near East settlement.

Meanwhile, it is well known that there is no need for this; such principles already exist. The experience of history shows, the commentator goes on, that lasting peace in the Near East can only be achieved with immediate and complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories and implementation of the inalienable national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to create their own state on the basis of respect for the right of all states in this area to free and independent development. It is obvious, Glukhov notes further, that one should not talk about working out new principles but on implementing the already existing and generally accepted principles for a Near East settlement. Meanwhile, the progress of Egyptian-Israeli contacts testifies to a rejection of these basic principles and an attempt to undermine them, while camouflaging the essence of the prepared deals.

The Algerian meeting of a number of Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organization has been held under the motto of a struggle against these separate deals. Its participants stressed the important role of the USSR in the quest for peace in this region.

Any efforts aimed at achieving a just peace in the Near East have found and do find the support of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states. This support is an expression of the USSR's general principled approach to a solution to the Near East conflict. Only a just and all-embracing settlement will ensure lasting peace in the Near East, the author concludes.

Israeli 'Intransigence'

LD062235Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] President as-Sadat has not been able to induce the United States to take any tangible step to make Israel budge from its position. This is the conclusion drawn from U.S. press reports about the talks between Presidents as-Sadat and Carter in Camp David. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR said, for example, that President Carter has so far shown no readiness to pressure Israel even on the controversial issue of settlements which Israel continues to build or strengthen in Sinai and on the West Bank.

But this did not prevent the White House from issuing a statement in which all that was said by the United States was that it was equally a friend of Israel and Egypt. With such words, Washington is very evidently trying to sugar the bitter pill of U.S. unwillingness to give up its policy of exclusive support for Israel. True, in the United States they talk a great deal about the possibility of selling Egypt, at As-Sadat's request, a token quantity of U.S. military aircraft, but at the same time they stress that greater military deliveries to Israel are expected. However, many people doubt that this question is going to be solved even in this way.

Brzezinski, the U.S. President's assistant for national security affairs, said that the United States ought to think over carefully President as-Sadat's request. He added that Egypt has lost one source of arms, the Soviet Union, and is now looking for other sources. The assistant to President Carter went on to say that this position confirmed neither with U.S. nor with Israeli interests. In other words, Israel's interests here too came on top of the list. No wonder Israel is becoming more intransigent, for while the U.S.-Egyptian talks were proceeding in Camp David, Tel Aviv made known another plan for territorial annexation on the West Bank based on the division of this area. This is yet another proof of what the separate Middle East talks can lead to.

Egyptian 'Isolation'

LD062246Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] In Washington, the talks between Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and U.S. President James Carter have ended. Our Washington correspondent, Yuriy Soltan, reports:

The talks took place in strict secrecy at the President's out-of-town residence at Camp David, where not one journalist was allowed. But the actual subject of the talks was no secret. Anwar as-Sadat came to Washington to make a demeaning appeal for patronage. As-Sadat's chosen course for a separate deal with Israel has led him up a blind alley.

Egypt has become isolated in the Arab world. As-Sadat has become alienated from his natural allies, the countries of socialism, and now he is being pushed toward an agreement with Israel on conditions proposed by Tel Aviv and which do not provide for either a full liberation of the Arab territories seized by Israel, or granting the Arab Palestine people the right to state self-determination. Nor have As-Sadat's calculations that the United States, which dragged him into this trap, would become an ally of Cairo come to anything. Subservience did not help, nor did the attempt to represent his regime as a stronghold of anticommunism in the Near East, nor did any of his other bowing and scraping to Washington. Cairo has only been promised, and only in general terms at that, the delivery of an insignificant batch of obsolete weapons and the provision of some sort of economic aid. As far as the conditions for a settlement are concerned, the United States is trying not to advertise its position too clearly, so as not to repel the Arabs utterly, but still remains firmly on the side of Tel Aviv.

In the 3 days which President Anwar as-Sadat still intends to spend in Washington, he plans to meet the head of the Pentagon, Harold Brown, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, and U.S. senators and congressmen. But if Anwar as-Sadat still hopes to get any sympathy from them, then as one Washington newspaper commented, he is dialing a wrong number.

'ZIONIST' BOMB DAMAGES EGYPTIAN DIPLOMAT'S RESIDENCE

LD061737Y Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 6, TASS--American Zionists have staged a new provocation. One of the Zionist groups exploded a bomb near the entrance of a building in which a member of the Egyptian United Nations mission lives. Serious damage was inflicted to the building. The criminals escaped.

PLANS FOR PERSIAN GULF FORCE 'EXPOSE U.S. INTENTIONS'

LD031835Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 2 Feb 78 LD

[Grigoriy Orlov commentary in "The World Today" program]

[Text] According to the Washington POST, U.S. Defense Secretary Brown has issued orders that a U.S. force should be used in the Persian Gulf if an emergency arises there. According to this order, a rapidly deployable force consisting of two Army divisions and one Marine unit, with their own air support, should be stationed [word indistinct] America so that they could be sent to the Persian Gulf on a moment's notice under the pretext of protecting oil fields.

Commenting on this, our commentator Grigoriy Orlov writes: It should be pointed out that President Carter secretly issued orders to establish this special force last year, and now the U.S. defense secretary is officially confirming it. At the time of issue, the press in the Persian Gulf considered this order a threat of U.S. military intervention and reacted very negatively to it. The press pointed out that the oil resources belonged to Persian Gulf states and that they had not asked anyone to defend them.

A great many commentators say these U.S. claims are a part of that country's plots to establish domination of the Persian Gulf and [word indistinct]. The Iraqi newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH condemns Brown's order in no uncertain terms, adding that the Pentagon's aggressive inclinations greatly endanger the future of the Arabs and world peace. Kuwait's AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM cites the direct link between the U.S. military threat and the attempt by the United States and Israel to impose a capitulationist settlement on the Arabs.

The paper adds that such a threat reveals the plundering, exploiting plots aimed at forcing Arabs to compromise and drop oil as a political factor in settling the future of the Palestinians. These facts once again expose the true nature of Washington's intentions, as well as the nature of the peace that U.S. leaders are trying to impose on the Near East.

BROWN ASKS CONGRESS TO INCREASE U.S. TROOPS IN EUROPE

LD032330Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 3 Feb 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program with Boris Andrianov]

[Excerpt] A REUTER report from Washington gives an account of the report which Defense Secretary Harold Brown sent to Congress. He believes that the country's military expenditure must be increased annually by at least 3 percent. Harold Brown also spoke in favor of strengthening the U.S. military presence in Europe.

Behind this statement of the Pentagon's will, certain U.S. observers are inclined to perceive the intentions of the Washington administration to realize its program connected with the production of the neutron bomb and the deployment of this weapon of mass destruction in the countries of Western Europe.

DEEDS SEEN AS DETERMINANT IN USSR-U.S. RELATIONS

LD061427Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 6, 3 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Bridges of Mutual Understanding"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's visit to the United States has given the public and press of both countries a good occasion to survey the state, potential and prospects of Soviet-American relations.

Since the memorable positive turnabout in 1972 both sides have made considerable efforts to create a realistic and constructive base for their relations. They have to their credit 61 documents including program documents such as the "basic principles of the relations between the USSR and the United States" in which the two countries undertook to be guided by the principles of peaceful coexistence; the agreement on preventing nuclear war; and a number of agreements on strategic arms limitation.

This is a sufficiently solid foundation for building relations stably, in a long-term and large-scale way, and with the scope merited by the potential of both states. It is precisely such a prospect which is depicted in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's report of 2 November 1977: "Life itself demands that the long-term considerations dictated by concern for peace be decisive in Soviet-American relations. We adhere to this line; we expect the same thing in response. We are perfectly ready to continue the development of relations with the United States on the basis of equality and mutual respect."

Readiness for the onward development of relations with the USSR can also be heard occasionally in the speeches of Washington officials. The statement from the White House after it had been visited by the Soviet parliamentary delegation points out: "The President stated his interest in working on a basis to widen the areas of cooperation and to limit the areas of competition in the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. The President noted that this will require mutual efforts and restraint from both sides."

Yes, those are suitable elements for building bridges of mutual understanding and good relations, but it is difficult to imagine widening areas of cooperation when the United States has still not created normal conditions for trade with the USSR, as a result of which trade turnover fell from \$2.9 billion in 1976 to \$2 billion in 1977.

Of course, the desire to limit areas of competition is laudable, but will this too not remain just a good intention if the neutron bomb emerges in the path of the development of the relations between the United States and the USSR? Isn't the start of series production (such an intention exists) fraught with the exacerbation of rivalry in the most dangerous sphere--the arms race? If Washington is proclaiming restraint, the best manifestation of it now would be agreement to the USSR's proposal regarding the mutual renunciation of production of the neutron bomb.

The experience of the last few years suggests that arms limitation is the central issue in the vast complex of Soviet-American relations. SALT-II (the limitation of strategic offensive armaments), the total discontinuation of nuclear weapons tests, the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, the restriction of military activity in the Indian Ocean, the reduction of military confrontation in Europe and the curbing of the international weapons trade--those are the most important problems which the USSR and the United States are seeking to solve in tandem and together with other states. Much depends on successful progress along this path; both the level of relations between the two countries and the general tone of detente.

America's reactionary circles are now attempting to suggest to the country: If anything is overshadowing the country's existence, it is the "Soviet threat." However, "the country," Washington POST commentator J. Kraft testifies, "is much less worried about the communist offensive or the danger of nuclear war than about inflation, unemployment, taxes, crime, drug abuse, the problems of the big cities and atmospheric pollution." And while it is difficult to expect the militarists to abandon the bugbear of the "Soviet threat," it is not fitting for those involved in forming interstate relations to resort to it. It is high time that this bugbear is turned out the door of "big politics."

Bridges of mutual understanding are built from both sides. Hitches and deformations across the ocean can be surmounted, provided, of course, that the energy of words is turned into the energy of deeds.

'SHARPLY EXPANDED' U.S. ARMS SALES CONDEMNED

LD042154Y Moscow in English to Africa 1500 GMT 4 Feb 78 LD

[Text] According to the Pentagon, this year the United States is to sell arms to other countries at the sum of \$13.2 billion. This means an increase of \$2 billion on last year's figures. Our observer, Viktor Glazunov, makes this comment:

These data make one recall the promises of the new Washington administration to cut down on the arms sales abroad. In fact, however, what we see is a 15 percent increase. Hardly a year has passed since President Carter was reproaching his predecessor for the disgusting dangers and cynical practice of the unchecked arms proliferation, in his words.

Yet now that the new administration is in office this practice, far from being limited, is being sharply expanded. The gap between what the men in Washington preach and what they practice is striking indeed. But it has a logic of its own. The point is that all the sales abroad are not only a profitable business. As the American arms expert (Chandler) has admitted: Arms exports have played and continue to play a considerable role in attaining American foreign policy objectives. They are an important means of securing the U.S. political and strategic aims abroad.

The official explanation of the arms exports is that they are contributing to the security of the United States and its friends, and the range of the clients and friends receiving American arms is interesting indeed.

Israel ranks first among them. And it is Israeli policy that has more than once plunged the Middle East into the abyss of war and keeps the Middle East situation explosive to this day.

Israel is followed by the reactionary regimes of Saudi Arabia, South Korea, and the fascist and dictatorial regimes of Chile, Haiti, Guatemala, Paraguay and Nicaragua.

The French magazine LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE observed that Washington, so fond of holding forth about human rights, is expanding military aid to countries where these rights are infringed upon most of all. And the New York TIMES admits that the main yardstick of the so-called friendliness to the United States of this or that regime is the degree of its anticommunism, as well as the presence of a suitable climate for the investments of the American monopolies.

It is these criteria that determine U.S. policy on sponsoring repressive regimes. Indeed it was as recently as last year that James Carter condemned the unchecked proliferation of American weapons in the world. He maintained that it threatened stability in any part of the world. He was certainly right. The current U.S. practice is additional evidence. According to the PARADE magazine, more than half of the American arms exports go to the Middle East and the Persian Gulf. These are the areas with the most explosive situations, and it is an open secret now that the events in the Horn of Africa are also largely the result of the American intrigues, because the Americans are supplying arms to the enemies of revolutionary Ethiopia through various channels.

Experience shows that American arms exports are one of the factors aggravating tensions in various parts of the world, and unfortunately there are plenty of cases in point.

CONGRESSMEN PROTEST U.S. 'INTENSIFICATION OF ARMS RACE'

LD032200Y Moscow TASS in English 2121 GMT 3 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 3, TASS--A group of members of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress expressed a protest in connection with the intensification of the arms race in the country.

Addressing a press conference in Congress, they demanded a cut in military spendings, which are planned for the fiscal year of 1979 to the tune of 128,400 million dollars, the biggest ever.

Opening the press conference, Executive Director of the Citizens Organization for the Sane Nuclear Policy Cortright recalled that during the election campaign Carter promised to cut military spendings by 5,000-7,000 million dollars and limit arms sales to other countries, but these pledges have never been met.

Member of the House Tom Harkin, representing the agricultural state of Iowa, stressed that military spendings are growing while there is a shortage of funds in agricultural areas for the most vital social needs.

Congressman Theodore Weiss said that the population of New York State is profoundly disappointed at the policy of the administration, which, as the congressman put it, has failed to outline correctly the national priorities.

Congressman Frederick Richmond expressed disagreement with the concept which demands more planes, more missiles, more bombs. He considers it senseless to appropriate funds for the development of strategic "MX" missile and other systems of the missile nuclear weapon and expresses profound concern over the growing sales of U.S. arms abroad, which reached 13,000 million dollars a year. The main objective for us, Frederick Richmond went on to say, is not the strengthening of the military potential but satisfying the country's home needs--ensuring a larger number of jobs, building apartment houses for low income population, reviving the ruining city blocks, aid to farmers and improving the population's diet.

U.S. INCREASING ARMS EXPORTS TO 'EXPLOSIVE AREAS'

LD061600Y Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 6, TASS--The United States continues increasing its arms exports. As was officially announced by the White House, American arms shipments abroad are to increase 2 billion dollars in the current 1978 fiscal year to reach 13.2 billion.

Most of the American arms go to explosive areas. Thus 80 percent of U.S. arms exports are supplied to the Middle East, in the first place to Israel, Iran and Saudi Arabia, according to official figures. Tel Aviv receives 1.5 billion dollars worth of up-to-date American arms a year and a considerable portion of this free of charge. Speaking at a press conference at the U.S. State Department, L. Gelb, director of the State Department's Bureau for Military and Political Affairs, stressed that the United States bears historical responsibility for ensuring Israel's security.

There is also a heavy flow of American arms to Saudi Arabia. Thus, Riyadh has bought 10 billion dollars worth of arms from the USA over the last five years.

At present the United States is going to supply combat planes, helicopters and other arms to Morocco.

Arms also go to repressive regimes. Among the biggest clients of the USA are the dictatorial regimes in South Korea, Paraguay, Nicaragua and Haiti. The American press says that Washington is now considering the sale of F-5 fighters to Guatemala.

MATERIAL ON REORGANIZATION OF U.S. INTELLIGENCE

Seen as 'Propaganda Trick'

LD031731Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[V. Berezin article: "No More Than a Fiction"]

[Text] The U.S. President has issued a special order on the reorganization of the American intelligence service. The essence of the reform lies in extending the rights of Adm S. Turner, director of the CIA, who will head an influential committee in charge of determining the tasks of intelligence operations [paragraph continues]

"That means," the New York TIMES writes, "that the most important functions of national intelligence--the collection of intelligence data, the setting of targets, budget control, the analysis of data for consumers--will be centralized under the leadership of Admiral Turner."

As is well known, scandalous exposures of the American subversive services' activities have recently disturbed the public both in the United States and abroad. Uncontrolled espionage and subversion throughout the world and in "their own home" have evoked a wave of indignation and seriously undermined Washington's prestige. And Washington has been forced to react, affirming that by reorganizing it will strengthen its control of intelligence and put its activities in order. But such assurances will hardly delude anyone.

It is characteristic that the current reorganization of American intelligence services is accompanied, observers note, by competition between the CIA director and the defense secretary for "control of the Pentagon's intelligence operations." And this is quite understandable: the immense appropriations officially allotted from federal coffers for espionage and subversion, the millions of dollars given to the "cloak and dagger knights" by big business--this is what is at stake.

There is one more very remarkable nuance in this whole campaign. "The order," the Washington POST writes, "permits the subsidizing of political groups in governments abroad and the use of agents in the attempt to destabilize foreign governments, so one government official stated."

And this means that, as before, the American intelligence services are given carte blanche to conduct operations of the most criminal nature, similar to the operation associated with the overthrow of the lawful Popular Unity government in Chile in 1973. So the present reorganization of U.S. intelligence is no more than a fiction, and the statement on the "control and putting in order" of its work is nothing but propaganda trick to deceive public opinion.

Called 'Cosmetic' Change

LD031335Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[V. Kalashnikov article: "New Signboards, Old Aims"]

[Text] Official U.S. propaganda is making a lot of noise about "the all-round reorganization of the country's intelligence organs." The White House has announced that a special coordination committee of the National Security Council is being created with full powers to recommend particularly important assignments for the collection of intelligence and the holding of secret operations of an unusually subversive nature. The committee, which will be headed by the President's adviser on national security, will include the secretary of defense, the secretary of state, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the director of the CIA, the attorney general, and the director of the Office of Management and Budget.

The new political analysis committee will be subordinated to CIA Director Admiral Turner. This committee (also under the National Security Council) will determine the most important expenditures and tasks of the intelligence service and supply intelligence to the government departments. Other organs are also being created.

It is most likely, on the one hand, that the reorganization is aimed at strengthening control by the top level of U.S. federal power of the "intelligence community"--the network of intelligence services which according to U.S. press reports swallow up over \$10 billion a year and have become an "invisible government"--a network which has grown unprecedentedly in the past decade.

On the other hand, the reorganization has been prompted by the need to plaster and paint over the image of the "intelligence community" which has grown pretty shabby as a result of scandalous revelations. In this sense the reorganization is cosmetic, for although the signboards have been changed the aims of the imperialist intelligence services are the same. As the U.S. press points out, no reduction in the CIA's secret subversive operations abroad (the so-called "dirty tricks") is expected. The U.S. intelligence service will continue to be allowed to "destabilize" inconvenient foreign governments and to use journalists, teachers, scientists, students and any other groups of Americans to carry out secret operations. In an interview with TIME magazine Turner has stated that the CIA engages in economic and political espionage in over 150 countries.

In short, all the types of dangerous activity which created the uncontrolled atmosphere in the "intelligence community" and brought notoriety to the CIA are continuing. The "cloak and dagger knights" have no cause to worry about their fate under the new committee.

'DANGEROUS INCIDENT' AT U.S. AIR BASE REPORTED

LDO61526Y Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 6, TASS--A dangerous incident took place at the Robins Air Base (Georgia State). Before a B-52 bomber with missiles fitted out with nuclear warheads on board was to go up it was discovered that one of them was damaged. Referring to military sources the newspaper ATLANTIC JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION writes that unidentified persons removed safety devices from the mechanism for dropping bombs and damaged electrical and other equipment on the bomber. The command of strategic aviation is investigating the incident.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION ON AMMONIA SUPPLIES--Riga, February 3, TASS--A complex for the storage and loading of ammonia into ships has been put into operation in the Soviet port of Ventspils. A factory for the transportation and processing of chemical products is under construction near the port on the basis of compensatory agreements between the USSR and the "Occidental Petroleum" company. The new complex is the main project of the enterprise. The first thousand tons of ammonia have been delivered into the reservoirs rising to a height of 40 metres on the coast of the Baltic Sea. From there ammonia is to be shipped to ports of the USA. Eight Soviet tankers-gas carriers are assigned to Ventspils. Six of them have already started operation on the USSR-USA line. We support with satisfaction the statement by president of our firm, Armand Hammer, that the Soviet Union and the USA must start and develop in every way possible cooperation and peaceful trade, a TASS correspondent was told by Paul Sawyer, head of the team of American engineers exercising control over the assembly of the equipment. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1642 GMT 3 Feb 78 LD]

III. 7 Feb 78

U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
C H I N A

C 1

REPORT OF USSR-PRC BORDER CLASH CALLED 'CONCOCTION'

LDO71010Y Moscow TASS in English 0959 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 7, TASS--The American news agency UPI and the London DAILY TELEGRAPH circulated a report alleging that another frontier incident between China and the USSR had taken place in the Amur River area.

TASS has learned that this report is a sheer concoction. Its authors are obviously engaged in wishful thinking.

TENG'S VISIT TO NEPAL, BURMA PRODUCES NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE

LDO61316Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 100 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Deputy premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Teng Hsiao-ping, has ended his visit to Nepal. Political observers note the absence of the final communiques on this visit as well as the recent visit to Burma. Both in Katmandu and Rangoon the sides at the talks only just set forth their stands on the problems under consideration.

It is also noteworthy that while calling on Asian states for struggle against what is termed hegemonism, the Chinese guest did not say a single word of protest against U.S. military preparations in Asia. Thus the Asian press draws a conclusion that Peking's policy of silent consent to U.S. military activity in Asia has not changed. In the light of this, according to observers, any concession from Asian countries to the Maoist call of struggle against hegemonism runs counter to the fundamental principles of the nonalignment movement spearheaded against imperialism.

PEKING HOLDING TALKS WITH FRG ON PURCHASE OF HELICOPTERS

LDO30730Y Moscow TASS in English 0646 GMT 3 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, February 3, TASS--West German newspapers report that China's representatives are holding talks in the FRG to purchase 30 latest military helicopters of the "BO-105" type equipped with anti-tank rockets.

These helicopters are manufactured at enterprises of the aircraft-missile concern "Messerschmitt-Belkow-Blohm" in Bavaria. According to press reports, they are also to be adopted among the weapons of Bundeswehr.

SOVIET, ROMANIAN LEADERS EXCHANGE CABLES ON ANNIVERSARY

Brezhnev, Kosygin Message

LDO61531Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and president of Romania

Comrade Manea Manescu, prime minister of Romania

Dear Comrades:

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and the entire Soviet people we send you, the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, the Romanian State Council and Government and the fraternal Romanian people cordial congratulations on the 30th anniversary of the friendship, cooperation and mutual aid treaty between the Soviet Union and Romania.

The treaty signed 4 February 1948 was a vivid demonstration of the triumph of the immutable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and a manifestation of genuine equality of rights and friendship. It contributed to consolidating socialism's gains in Romania and to strengthening the international positions of our countries and the entire socialist community and provided a firm foundation for the development of friendly Soviet-Romanian relations in the political, economic, defense, cultural and other spheres. The ideas embodied in this treaty were further comprehensively enshrined and developed in the new Soviet-Romanian friendship, cooperation and mutual aid treaty of 7 July 1970.

Reflecting the achievements of our countries' peoples in building socialism and communism, the existing treaty--a component part of the general system of allied relations among the fraternal countries--embodies exceptionally broad potential for the constant deepening and expansion of Soviet-Romanian cooperation and the comprehensive consolidation of the relations and contacts between our parties and states both on a bilateral basis and under the Warsaw Pact and CEMA in the interests of the cause of peace and socialism.

On this portentous date we wish the fraternal Romanian people great successes in creative constructive labor and new horizons in building a developed socialist society.

[signed] L. Brezhnev

A. Kosygin

Ceausescu, Manescu Message

LDO61659Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

Comrade Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, the Romanian State Council and Government, the Romanian people and on our own behalf we convey to you, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers and the Soviet Union's people cordial greetings, warm congratulations and best wishes on the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first friendship, cooperation and mutual aid treaty between Romania and the Soviet Union.

In the 30 years since the signing of the treaty Romanian-Soviet relations have constantly developed on the firm foundation of international solidarity, equality, respect for national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs, mutual advantage and comradely mutual assistance. The new friendship, cooperation and mutual aid treaty between our countries signed in July 1970 marked a higher stage in the comprehensive development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties, states and peoples and insures a favorable framework for strengthening cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, technical, cultural and other spheres between Romania and the USSR. Our meetings and fruitful talks in the last few years, the accords which we have reached and the statement signed in Bucharest in November 1976 have been outstanding moments in the increasing development of the relations between our parties, states and peoples. We are convinced that Romanian-Soviet relations will continue to develop in the interests of the Romanian people and the Soviet union's people and the cause of socialism, peace and security throughout the world, on the firm foundation of the traditional fraternal friendship and cooperation prevailing between our peoples and the outstanding successes achieved by both countries in every sphere of socialist and communist building.

On the anniversary of this important event in the annals of Romanian-Soviet relations we wish you, dear comrades, the communists and all Soviet working people new great successes in building communism in your motherland and in the struggle for the triumph of socialism, peace and cooperation among the peoples.

[signed] Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and President of Romania

Manea Manescu, Prime Minister of Romania.

USSR-CSSR SIGN ACCORD ON NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS IN MOSCOW

LDO70819Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Feb 78 morning edition p 3 LD

[Text] TASS--Talks were completed on 2 February in Moscow during which a Soviet-Czechoslovak agreement on the further deepening of cooperation in interstate cooperation in the production of equipment for nuclear power plants was signed.

On the authorization of the governments the agreement was signed by: On the Soviet side--V.G. Morozov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and on the Czechoslovak side--F. Mares, first deputy minister of foreign trade.

CDU OFFICIAL EXPECTS BREZHNEV TO VISIT FRG SOON

LD061751Y Hamburg DPA in German 1712 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--In the view of Walter Leisler Kiep, Christian Democratic Union [CDU] treasurer and Lower Saxony finance minister, there is no doubt that Leonid Brezhnev, Soviet party and state leader, will visit the Federal Republic soon. Kiep, who is the first prominent guest from CDU to visit Moscow since party chairman Helmut Kohl visited in 1975, has been in the Soviet Union since Sunday. Today he met with Aleksandr Bondarenko, chief of the Foreign Ministry department handling relations with the FRG; Aleksey Manzhulo, deputy minister for foreign trade; and with Leonid Zamyatin, director general of TASS, in his capacity as president of the USSR-FRG Society.

The CDU politician stated afterwards that he had presented the views of the union. The partners at the talks showed a strong interest in continuing these contacts with the CDU, in learning their views on bilateral and multilateral issues and discussing them. Today they discussed all important issues, including the recent CDR entry ban on CDU Chairman Helmut Kohl.

Kiep believes that particular interest was shown on the part of the Soviet partners at the talks in expanding economic cooperation with the FRG. Tomorrow, Kiep will meet Vadim Zagladin, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

KREISKY ARRIVES IN MOSCOW, MET BY KOSYGIN, KIRILLIN

LD061446Y Moscow TASS in English 1427 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 6, TASS--The federal chancellor of the Austrian Republic, Dr Bruno Kreisky, arrived here today for a working visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government. At the airport decorated with the national flags of Austria and the Soviet Union, the federal chancellor was met by Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; Vladimir Kirillin, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; and other officials. Among the welcoming party was the Austrian ambassador to the USSR, Heinrich Standenat.

Talks Open

LD071016Y Moscow TASS in English 1014 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 7, TASS--The Soviet-Austrian talks started today in the Kremlin. They are conducted by Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin and Austria's Federal Chancellor Dr Bruno Kreisky. The federal chancellor arrived in Moscow on Monday at the invitation of the Soviet Government for a working visit.

Visit Previewed

AU031414Y Vienna ARBEITER-ZEITUNG in German 3 Feb 78 p 3 AU

[Vladimir Lomeyko, NOVOSTI political commentator: "With Equal Rights and Advantageous for Both Sides; On Bruno Kreisky's Visit to Moscow"]

[Excerpts] In view of the Moscow visit by Chancellor Dr Bruno Kreisky scheduled for 6-8 February one should point out the stable, goodneighborly nature of the mutual relations and the readiness to expand these relations in all fields. [paragraph continues]

These relations are based on the solid foundation of the state treaty which, like the course of permanent neutrality chosen by Austria, has proved its vitality.

While such assessments contain nothing new, they constitute good news for this very reason. The Soviet people would like to hear such news in the future, too, even more because Austria and beyond its borders, in contrast with the Soviet Union, not everyone is satisfied with such developments and might feel inclined to alter Austrian policy. To this end they warn against overly friendly relations with the East and stress the advantages of a closer cooperation with the West. The Austrians are in a better position to judge the practical value of such advantages.

As far as the present situation is concerned, however, relations between the Soviet Union and Austria are assessed as a mutually advantageous cooperation based on equal rights.

Also, Austria's constructive contribution to the all-European conference in Helsinki and to the Belgrade meeting is duly appreciated, even more because forces are at work that do not want to surrender their hopes of achieving unilateral advantages by pursuing an unrealistic policy toward the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. However, quite a few elements of the Austrian mass media, such as newspapers and television, are making no bones about anti-Soviet propaganda. Such inflammatory propaganda certainly does not contribute to a better understanding between the two countries.

It cannot be overlooked that in many European countries politicians and statesmen have taken a negative stance on the neutron bomb and its deployment in Europe, but so far there has not been any clear official statement from Austria.

Bilateral meetings such as the upcoming ones between the Soviet Union and Austria have, in addition to their incontestable importance for the consolidation of political and economic cooperation, still another important aspect: They induce the peoples of the countries concerned to focus attention on one another, and in this way contribute to mutual understanding.

UK FOREIGN OFFICE WAGED 30-YEAR WAR ON SOVIET IMAGE

LD021306Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0906 GMT 2 Feb 78 LD

["Masters of 'Black Propaganda'"--TASS headline]

[Text] London (TASS correspondent Eduard Baskakov)--Thousands of anti-Soviet and anti-communist books and brochures with a wide variety of titles have been published since the war by the London "Ampersand" Publishing Company, both in Britain and abroad. Hundreds of British journalists have systematically made libelous attacks on the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in the Fleet Street papers, and obtaining generous payments. Only now has it become known that all this unsavory output was virtually the work of one and the same author--the so-called "Information Research Department" [IRD] of the British Foreign Office.

Established in January 1948 as a "top secret section" of the Foreign Office, the IRD has for 30 years been one of Britain's leading centers for coordinating subversive anticommunist propaganda abroad and manipulating domestic public opinion in the interests of the "cold war."

The "masters of black propaganda" have spent almost 1 million pounds during this time, under cover of their diplomatic ranks. THE GUARDIAN stresses that the IRD made extensive use of the experience of similar American agencies, particularly the CIA. The department's regular clients include over 100 influential British journalists known for their reactionary views and also many trade union activists and public figures. The activities of the "Amersand" firm, which specialized in publishing anti-Soviet materials, were totally financed from the secret funds of the Foreign Office.

Only in 1977, after the unbridled activities of the IRD had become clearly contradictory to detente and cooperation between states, did the British Foreign Office decide to close down the department. Only since that decision has the British public learned how the 1 million pounds extracted from taxpayers' wallets was spent.

However, it does not look as if the "orchestra" of anti-Soviet propaganda has been left without a "conductor." According to THE GUARDIAN, in place of the IRD, under the roof of the same Foreign Office, there has now been set up "a smaller, but still secret department with the task of defending British interests in general." The weekly OBSERVER writes in this connection that the unsavory products of the defunct IRD which flooded the libraries of many British universities and colleges remain on the bookshelves.

Press Coverage 'Orchestrated'

LD061735Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian

["Conspiracy of Silence"--TASS headline]

[Text] London, 6 February--TASS correspondent Igor Titov:

While laying claim to objectivity and independence, the "free" press of Fleet Street is trying at all costs to maintain silence over the scandal which broke last week in connection with the exposure of the special secret department of the British Foreign Office which for 30 years coordinated subversive anticommunist activity and the distribution of literature in the spirit of the "cold war" in the British Isles and abroad.

After the appearance in THE GUARDIAN and THE OBSERVER of materials concerning the so-called Information Research Department, British mass media, which is usually so greedy for sensations (particularly if they are of an anticommunist nature) was struck dumb. All last week not one reader's letter or article was published on this topic. The Fleet Street "Sovietologists" suddenly began an intensive flurry of the usual anti-Soviet fabrications.

You won't find in the papers a report about the inquiries made by N. Kinnock, a Labor MP, concerning the functions of this secret section of the Foreign Office which appeared under another label. The answers which the parliamentarians received from a representative of the Foreign Office irrefutably testify to the fact that these functions are virtually the same as the tasks of the former department.

In short, the "free" British press has preferred to remain silent on the scandal. Is this not more proof of how the British mass media is orchestrated?

NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE MIDEAST SETTLEMENT REITERATED

LDO61452Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Leaders of Algeria, Libya, Syria, democratic Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organization have ended their conference in Algeria. Here are more details from our commentator Valentin Lapin:

It is obvious today, the conference's resolution states, that the separatist policy is part of the American-Zionist plan aimed at perpetuating the occupation of the Arab territory and depriving the Palestinians of their legitimate national rights.

The Israeli settlement plan provides for retaining Israeli control over the Palestine territories in the West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza sector. It is clear to everyone, however, that there can be no stable peace without a just solution of the Palestinian problem. Nor can there be any peace if the Israeli soldiers and settlers remain on the Syrian Golan Heights and the annexation of East Jerusalem [is] preserved.

Meanwhile, the Israeli plan has won support of the United States. President Carter described it as a fair base for negotiation. Washington officials seem to cling to their opinion. At any rate, news agencies report that during the meeting between President Carter and President as-Sadat at Camp David, the Egyptian president was recommended to show flexibility and softness toward the Palestinian problem and the Israeli settlements on the occupied Arab territory. In other words, Egypt is offered to make more and more concessions to Israel as a price for a separate peace.

The Arabs are against the solution of the Middle East conflict on American-Israeli terms. The final declaration adopted by the Algerian conference condemns the subversive policy of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, their attempts to drive a wedge in relations between the Arab nations and their natural allies, the socialist countries. The conference stated the need for the Soviet Union's participation in all the stages of the Middle East settlement. A durable peace in the Middle East can be achieved only through a comprehensive settlement which will take into account the interests of all the parties concerned.

EGYPT JOINS REACTIONARY ALLIANCE, SENDS TROOPS TO SOMALIA

LDO62112Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1900 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Egyptian military sources have reported that 5,000 Egyptian officers and soldiers have been sent to Somalia to take part in the fighting in support of the Somali Army. The same sources also have pointed out that the question of the participation of Egyptian forces in the battles against Ethiopia were discussed at the recent meeting between the Egyptian president and U.S. President Carter. The participation of the Egyptians in fighting the progressive regime in Ethiopia and the political and moral support for the expansionist policy being pursued by Somalia indicate that Egypt is in alliance with the most reactionary regimes in the Middle and Near East in their struggle against the progressive countries in the African Continent.

POISONED ORANGES BLAMED ON ISRAELI ARMY, INTELLIGENCE

LAO41402Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 3 Feb 78 TA

[Text] In West European countries--in West Germany, Holland and in others--incidents of poisoning by oranges imported from Israel have been reported, especially among children.

Such incidents are regrettable, and cause concern both among the Israeli and the West European public.

Israeli experts, citrus grove owners, Treasury and Commerce Ministry officials express wonder and regret. At the same time, they are trying to blame the Palestinians, intimating that somewhere in Europe Palestinians are deliberately infiltrating warehouses storing Israeli oranges and poisoning them.

The PLO summarily denied having had any part in this. It is really difficult to assume that people from the outside would have access to Israeli products, guarded by special Israeli agents. However, the fact remains that Israeli oranges caused poisoning, and it is important to find out why this happened.

It is well known that not all oranges exported by Israel are grown by the Israelis themselves. Some are purchased by Israeli exporters for next to nothing from the population in the territories, to be sold afterwards for an exorbitant price. It is also known that Israeli militarists have more than once sprayed Arab lands in the occupied territories--in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip--with toxic substances. The democratic public in Israel, as well as the world public, vigorously condemned such inhuman actions. The poisoning of the land had far-reaching ramifications long after the deed, making it dangerous to use the produce from such land and from areas adjoining it.

The oranges which caused the poisoning in Europe may have been from lands thus affected. If that is the case, then the Israeli Army and its general staff are involved. Nor is the complicity of the Shin Bet to be ruled out, whose exploits also include vile acts designed to defame Palestinian patriots. The Orange affair may be one in a chain of provocations of that kind. In many such cases the provocations, which had been kept strictly secret, caused the death of Israelis, adults and children. The Shin Bet, as well as the Begin Cabinet have an interest in denigrating the Palestinian Liberation Movement without worrying about the means. It would be naive to assume that the Shin Bet would report on its exploits to the citrus exporters or to anybody else.

Wafa Cited on Significance of New Israeli Military Chief

LDO31049Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent K. Geyvandov report: "On the Situation in the Near East"]

[Text] Beirut, 31 January--The Tel Aviv authorities have announced a reshuffle in the command personnel of the Israeli Army, to which news agencies attach great significance in terms of the Israeli ruling circles' further intentions in this region. In particular, attention is drawn to the fact that M. Gur, chief of staff of the Israeli Army, is being replaced by Maj Gen Refa'el Eytan who led the piratical Israeli attack on Beirut International Airport in 1968.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa recalls that Eytan was an active participant in the Arab-Israeli wars of 1956, 1967 and 1973. From 1974 through 1977 Eytan commanded the northern sector Israeli forces, which includes the border regions with Syria and Lebanon. In recent years Egypt has been withdrawing step by step from military confrontation with Israel, the agency notes, and the Eytan appointment obviously means that in its forthcoming military ventures against Arab countries, Israel attaches particular importance to the regions bordering on Syria and Lebanon.

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MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

NEW MARXIST ANALYSIS OF MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT REVIEWED

IDO21528X Moscow TASS in English 1425 GMT 2 Feb 78 ID

[Text] Moscow, February 2 TASS--"Anatomy of Middle East Conflict", a treatise by Yevgeniy Primakov, the distinguished Soviet scholar, director of the Orientology Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and corresponding member of the academy, was issued by the Mysl (Thought) Publishing House.

Primakov gives a thorough Marxist analysis of the causes of the Middle East conflict, surveys the process of its development and ways of settling it. He points out that besides the Palestinian problem, the tragedy of the Palestinian Arabs expelled by the Zionists from their native land, the Middle East conflict also rests on "the policy of Israel addressed directly to the Arab states and pursuing a double aim-- territorial expansion and liquidation of the revolutionary and anti-imperialist Arab regimes." [sentence as received] To attain these ends, the Zionists and imperialists extensively take advantage of the methods of provoking "local" conflicts in the Arab world. The author exposes the subversive role of those circles in the tragic fratricidal clashes in Lebanon and Jordan, the Kurdish events in Iraq, the provocative intervention in the domestic affairs of other Arab countries. In doing so, he extensively draws on personal observations, meetings and talks with many political and public figures on Middle Eastern countries.

The situation in the Middle East is considered in the context of imperialist policy as a whole and, specifically, United States policy. The stages of this policy are thoroughly revealed: Attempts at drawing Arab states into aggressive blocs, exploitation of inter-Arab conflicts for selfish ends, direct backing on Israel and, lastly, the so-called "balanced" course or pursuit of anti-Arab policy by other means.

A chapter is devoted to a penetrating analysis of causes and factors for the development of the Middle East conflict into the stage of international political crisis in 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973. The author draws the conclusion that, on balance, these principles did not and do not transcend "the boundaries of the common causes of the Middle East conflict--Israel's policy vis-a-vis the Arab Palestinian people, which led to the latter's loss of the right to self-determination; contradictions between Israel and neighbouring Arab countries due to the expansionist policy of the Israeli leadership; exploitation of the Middle East conflict by a number of imperialist states in the interests of their policy."

The author analyses a number of theoretical problems related to the exposure of the reactionary essence of Zionism, to nationalism and its manifestations, to the problem of Arab unity.

Much attention is paid to showing the consistent, principled Middle East policy of the Soviet Union.

The author stresses that a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict is the only real way of establishing a just peace in that region. Such a settlement must envisage the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967, exercise of the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine down to the setting up of their own state, safeguarding of the right to independent existence and security of all states directly involved in the conflict and an end to the state of war between the relevant Arab countries and Israel.

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PDYR OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON NEW MARXIST PARTY, ELECTIONS

LD311052Y Moscow TASS in English 0952 GMT 31 Jan 78 LD

["Important Tasks of Republic"--TASS headline]

[Text] Aden, January 31 TASS--This year, when a Marxist party, a party of a new type, is to be set up in the country, its future members would bear a special responsibility, said Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, the chairman of the Presidential Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. He was speaking at a mass meeting held on the occasion of his arrival at a group of islands 'Abd al-Kuri and Sokotra, which belong to the democratic Yemen.

The constituent congress of the party will take place after thorough preparation and wide detailed discussion in the ranks of the National Front. That is why the members of the party must set an example of organisation and discipline, readiness to sacrifice their lives for the cause of the revolution, Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali emphasised.

Turning to state affairs, he pointed out that one of the major tasks of the country now was to draw up the second five-year development plan. It would reflect the policy of the leadership of the country aimed at a further rise in the living standards of the mass of the people.

In his speech the chairman of the Presidential Council also said that the forthcoming elections to the People's Supreme Council would promote the strengthening and development of people's democracy in the republic.

IRAN'S GROWING MILITARY MIGHT DICTATED BY U.S. POLICY AIMS

LDO31547Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 5, 27 Jan 78 pp 12-14 LD

[Excerpt] Arms--Various Versions

There is one aspect of Iran's policy to which the Western press draws special attention. This is Iran's rapidly growing military might. Britain's FINANCIAL TIMES calls Iran one of "those countries where per capita military expenditure is the highest in the world." Speaking of the immoderately large scale of Iran's purchases of various types of modern weapons, mainly in the United States, Switzerland's JOURNAL DE GENEVE recently cited the following figures: One-fourth of Iran's entire budget goes to military expenditure, which is approximately 14 percent of its GNP. In 1976 alone, the New York TIMES (18 November 1977) wrote, Iran purchased arms worth a little over \$5 billion.

Many Western commentators want to find out the reason for the "fantastic" buildup of Iran's armaments. Some of them cite the official version, that Iran must control its own destiny and rely on no one to safeguard its own security. Others assert that Iran has many "dangerous" neighbors ready to attack it at any moment. In this connection, the London journal MIDDLE EAST (the May 1977 issue) sets the Iranian Army neither more nor less than the following specific tasks: "constantly having at least minimal deterrent forces" on the border with the USSR and "possessing military supremacy over Iraq and having mobile invasion forces for possible use in the Persian Gulf region." So for what aims precisely is Iran in fact being armed--for self-defense, or for invasion?

Let us turn to Iranian sources.

At the beginning of last year the Teheran newspaper KAYHAN, evidently in the heat of polemics with critics of the arms race in Iran, emphasized Iran's responsibility for the fate of Europe. It asserted that Iran's military buildup was in the interests of the Western powers since "free passage across the Strait of Hormuz and safe shipping in the Indian Ocean are just as important for the West as they are for Iran itself."

In November the same KAYHAN had already written of the need to reinforce Iran's defense: Now "any surprises may be expected," and there is no need to wait for "the big fish to swallow the small one." In a word, some Iranian press organs, fantasizing unrestrainedly, are at one point "defending themselves" and later "attacking."

Attention must be drawn to the fact that in all its dissertations about "big" and "little" fish, KAYHAN carefully keeps quiet about the selfish nature of the U.S. policy toward Iran which was recently admitted by former U.S. Vice President N. Rockefeller. In Teheran in the fall of 1977, he frankly said that the consolidation of U.S. military and political ties with Iran, like the buildup of Iran's military might, accords above all with U.S. and not Iranian interests. It would seem to be the right time for the "fishermen" from KAYHAN either to take up a "defensive position" or "go over to the attack." But the newspaper kept quiet.

Sober, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, "disposed" of Iran in approximately the same way. At a U.S.-Iranian symposium on the prospects of bilateral relations and their significance for the United States, held at the end of last year in Washington, he said (we quote from the newspaper KYAHAN INTERNATIONAL): "We believe that in the forthcoming decade Iran should play an important part not only directly in its region but also in other regions where there is a threat to peace and stability."

So it is perfectly obvious what role Washington assigns to the Iranian Armed Forces. On the other hand, Teheran does not conceal that there are Iranian units in Oman, or that Iran has supplied several types of arms to Somalia for conducting military operations against Ethiopia which, as is well known, poses no threat either to peace or security.

As the Teheran JOURNAL has noted, "special significance" is attached to Iran in the U.S. President's secret memorandum, made public last September, which provides for the creation of U.S. "operational deployment forces" for the "defense" of the Near and Middle East, South Asia and the Far East. According to the U.S. press, this position was confirmed by J. Carter himself during his New Year visit to Teheran.

Of course, there are fewer and fewer people in Iran who think in the categories of the cold war and who are delighted by U.S. generosity. They well remember whose interests are considered when the Pentagon determines the "danger zones" which the United States places under its "defense." The Teheran newspaper PEIGHAME EMRUZ expressed itself correctly on this score, writing that "the scent of oil, the shop-keeper's spirit of the arms traders and the desire to use cunning tricks to make Iran a shield to safeguard U.S. interests in the Persian Gulf and on Arab lands to the south" can be sensed in all these actions and designs of Washington. The newspaper calls for real steps to be taken to prevent the overt and concealed U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf.

This viewpoint of PEIGHAME EMRUZ is shared by all those who hold dear peace and security, the cause of the peoples' freedom and independence and their right to dispose for themselves of their own national resources and their own destiny.

U.S. Warships in Red Sea

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Valeriy Kosovan]

Brzezinski, As-Sadat Remarks

Western Aid

[Excerpt] Bonn, February 6, TASS--Somalia continues to receive generous financial support from the NATO countries, primarily the FRG. It was officially announced here that the FRG and Somalia have signed in Mogadiscio an agreement on 53-million-mark financial aid by West Germany to the Somali authorities.

As was said more than once by spokesmen of the FRG Ministry for Economic Cooperation, the overall sum of financial assistance to Somalia in 1978 was originally not to exceed 40 million marks.

In recent weeks, the West German press stressed repeatedly that the FRG is giving Somalia financial aid to help it buy abroad various types of arms needed by the Somalian Army for acts of aggression against Ethiopia.

London, February 6, TASS--As THE DAILY TELEGRAPH reports, Somalia has again asked Western countries for arms. In doing so the Somalian Government repeated the threadbare arguments that Somalia allegedly faces the danger of an "air attack" from Ethiopia. In this connection THE DAILY TELEGRAPH says: "It seems that President Barre's main objective is to create an atmosphere of urgency in the Horn of Africa to goad the Western and Arab governments into action."

Ethiopian Attack

LD061925Y Moscow TASS in English 1907 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 6, TASS--The armed forces and the units of the people's militia of Ethiopia have launched a successful attack on the eastern front. The Somalian troops which have invaded Ethiopian territory are sustaining heavy losses in personnel and material, abandoning their weapons in their hasty retreat, Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress, general secretary of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia told a press conference in Addis Ababa today.

He sharply condemned the support given by the Western NATO powers to the expansionist circles in Somalia in their aggressive war unleashed to undermine the Ethiopian revolution and seize part of Ethiopia's territory. The open Western interference in the Horn of Africa and the desire to internationalize the armed conflict make the search for peaceful settlement extremely difficult, said Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress. The PMAC closely follows reports about the arrival of U.S. naval ships to the area near the theatre of military operations. The gross interference by the West's imperialist circles in the affairs of the region poses a threat to the peace and security of the countries in the Horn of Africa, said the PMAC spokesman. The only way to normalize the situation is to strictly adhere to the charters of the U.N. and the Organization of African Unity with full and unconditional withdrawal of the Somalian forces from Ethiopian territory. Ethiopia, stressed Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress, is now fighting to liberate the occupied areas. He brushed off the false allegations by the Western propaganda about Ethiopia "plans to invade Somalia." The general secretary of the PMAC praised the all-round assistance of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community states to revolutionary Ethiopia. He stressed that Ethiopia's relations with the socialist countries are based on their common struggle for peace, democracy and socialism, for freedom and independence and for the right of all the peoples to decide their own destiny.

Soviet Position

LD062310Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Commentary by Radio Moscow observer]

[Text] When the general secretary of the Soviet Communist party, President Leonid Brezhnev, received the prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, in Moscow the other day, the two leaders stressed that a peace settlement of the Somali-Ethiopian conflict would go far to promote goodneighborly relations between all countries in the region on the basis of noninterference in one another's domestic affairs and mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

As you see, the Soviet approach to the problems of the Horn of Africa is not selective or special. It is determined by the basic principles of international law, formulated in the United Nations Charter and a number of special United Nations documents. By the way it has often been at Soviet initiative that the principle of peaceful coexistence has been included in United Nations documents. Let us also add that the United Nations principles concerning sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful coexistence fully accord with the charters of the Organisation of African Unity and the Arab League.

The Soviet Union always stands for a peace settlement of conflicts. Aware of the potential threat and danger of the conflict in the Horn of Africa, it has done everything possible to remove that seat of tension, using its traditionally friendly relations with Somalia for the purpose. This has been acknowledged even by those who are now trying to distort the Soviet position as regards the developments in the Horn of Africa. The Soviet Union supports the victims of imperialist aggression no matter where it takes place or who is involved, giving the victim countries material and technical aid for defense if necessary. This support fully accords with the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter.

And another important point: As it was stated in the joint Soviet-Yemeni communique at the end of 'Ali Muhammad's visit to the Soviet Union, the sides condemned the imperialist intrigues undertaken to interfere in the internal affairs of independent states with a view to overthrowing progressive governments in that part of the world. Indeed, we now bear witness to aggressive activity by the leading NATO countries in connection with the situation in the Horn of Africa. What is more, we bear witness to some far-going extraordinary plans being translated into action. There is a direct link between what is happening in the Horn of Africa and reports of a concentration of Saudi Arabian troops on the border with the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, a country lying on the other side of the Red Sea, which with Ethiopia refuses to take orders from the West and Arab reactionaries. Nor is it accidental that the United States is blackmailing the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, going as far as recommending a change of leadership in the country, an openly provocative recommendation.

In this context one cannot but agree with the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, Mengistu Mariam, who warned (?the nation) [word indistinct] that the aggressive plans worked out by international imperialism and reaction aim not only against revolutionary Ethiopia. They are designed, he said, to undermine the sovereignty of other progressive countries, to undermine the national liberation movement.

U.S. DIPLOMAT'S CRITICISM OF COMMENTARY ON HORN OF AFRICA REFUTED

LD071116Y Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 7, TASS--TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Raymond E. Benson, the counselor of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, is very angry with TASS. The reason for this is my commentary which refuted the allegations current in Washington that the USSR "fostered the war between Ethiopia and Somalia" and which pointed out who, what circles in the West, including in the United States, are fanning up the conflict in the area of the Horn of Africa.

In the message he addressed to me, Mr. Benson tried to refute outright the contents of the commentary and simultaneously declared, don't you see, that "it would serve the interests of TASS' reputation as a credible news agency if its coverage of events were kept in accord with the facts".

Frankly speaking, I have no wish to enter into polemics with Mr. Benson, and if his message expressed merely his own viewpoint, it could be left without an answer.

But what Mr. Benson expresses is far from the personal stand: suffice it to look through the main bourgeois newspapers in the United States to see that whenever the events in the Horn of Africa are mentioned, certain circles in Washington still try to present the matters in such a way as if the conflict in the area is being "fanned up" and "instigated" by the Soviet Union and Cuba, and the United States is presented in the role of all but "peace maker". And such assertions cannot be passed in silence.

As to the Soviet Union's stand with regard to the Somali-Ethiopian conflict, it is well-known: Our country, which declares against any forcible changes of frontiers, in the African Continent, too, exerted the maximum of efforts to prevent the emergence of a conflict, and now the USSR declares in favour of the conflict being ended as soon as possible and relations between Somalia and Ethiopia being settled at a conference table on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Immediate withdrawal of Somali troops from the Ethiopian territory and peaceful talks are the way toward liquidation of the conflict.

The present behaviour of the Somali leadership, which continues the aggressive actions, clearly goes against the principles of the United Nations Charter and decisions of Organization of African Unity.

It is also well-known who it is that in reality promotes the fanning up the conflict in the area of the Horn of Africa. It is stated in reports from Ethiopia that Somali troops that had invaded the territory of that country are using ever wider weapons coming to Somalia through third countries from some NATO powers. A convincing evidence of the armed interference of NATO countries and some countries of the Near and Middle East in the events in the Horn of Africa and their support for Somalia aggressors was, specifically, a documentary film shown over the Ethiopian television. The film was shot after the successful counter-offensive that was launched recently by Ethiopian armed forces and units of people's militia in the area of the towns of Harar and Jijiga and showed military equipment that had been seized. The viewers saw "M-42" U.S.-made tanks, anti-tank grenade launchers of the Italian make, mortars with NATO markings, etc. According to reports of FRANCE PRESSE agency, Somali leaders hold talks with ambassadors of "friendly" countries accredited in Mogadiscio to ensure support for the aggressive actions against Ethiopia. Such talks were held in the past few days with ambassadors of the United States, Britain, France, Italy, West Germany and diplomatic representatives of a number of reactionary Arab regimes. At the same time, it is reported that U.S. warships stage "a show of strength" off the coast of Ethiopia.

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In the light of these facts which, it should be stressed, were taken not from the Soviet press but from the Western press, what is the worth of assertions that the United States (and, we must add, some other NATO countries, first of all, the FRG) are striving for nothing else but "liquidation" of the seat of tensions in the area of the Horn of Africa? In reality, it is precisely these countries that pour oil on the flame of the conflict.

As to Mr. Benson's instructions about how to ensure TASS' reputation, it can only be said that in our deep conviction a good reputation can be earned by any news agency only on condition that it issues and distributes precise, truthful and objective information, and not misinformation or "refutations" that are not in keeping with reality in which some U.S. organs specialise.

ETHIOPIAN LEADER MEETS WITH OAU DELEGATION HEAD

LD062232Y Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 6 TASS--Ethiopia strives for peace and is prepared to support the efforts by the Organization of African Unity towards settling the armed conflict with Somalia. Peace can be restored in the region of the Horn of Africa, given the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory, stated the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia Mengistu Haile Mariam. Today he received the federal commissioner for foreign affairs of Nigeria, Joseph Garba, who is in Addis Ababa on a visit at the head of an OAU delegation.

During the meeting they exchanged views on the situation in the Horn of Africa. The sides noted the need for continued OAU efforts in search of a peaceful settlement to the Somali-Ethiopian armed conflict.

Joseph Garba presented Mengistu Haile Mariam with a special message from the head of the Nigerian State Olusegun Obasanjo.

Nigeria is a chairman of the OAU (?committee for) settling the Somali-Ethiopian conflict.

ASPECTS OF MALTA TALKS ON RHODESIA REVIEWED

LD061814Y Moscow in English to Africa 1500 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Dolgov commentary: "Four Out of Many"]

[Text] Talks were held in Malta last week between the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, on the one side, and the British foreign secretary, Dr David Owen, and the American ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young, on the other. Meanwhile, negotiations are continuing in Salisbury on an internal settlement between Ian Smith and representatives of the so-called moderate nationalists. Comment is by our analyst, Andrey Dolgov, and this is what he writes:

In Malta the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front have reaffirmed their opposition to those points in the Anglo-American plan which provide for giving power actually amounting to dictatorship to the British resident commissioner during the transitional period and retaining the mechanism of racist government, army and police. Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe were insisting on a vigorous and leading role of the front in all moves during the transitional period after Smith's resignation. They were insisting on the disbandment of the Rhodesian Army and police to replace them with new armed forces based on guerrilla units. The Zimbabwe Patriotic Front again demonstrated its unwillingness to accept the decisions being worked out in Salisbury by Smith and local stooges. This position of the patriotic front is based on a real state of affairs.

The black moderates negotiating with Smith have again discredited themselves by agreeing to a constitutional structure that would ensure economic privileges for the white minority and give it unproportionally great influence in government.

So far the course of an internal settlement has been suiting only Western diplomacy. Its chief goal, from Kissinger's plan and to the current Anglo-American proposals, has been to halt the armed struggle in Zimbabwe, in other words, to halt the process that the West is powerless to control and that may lead to a military and political victory for the progressive forces. Towards this end, as follows from a recent interview with Andrew Young, the West is doing all it can to isolate the Zimbabwe freedom fighters from the independent African nations and socialist countries supporting them.

Zimbabwe's future is largely determined today by the scope of the armed struggle led by the Patriotic Front. Accordingly its successes largely determine the firmness of the patriots' position on the diplomatic front.

NKOMO: 11,200 MERCENARIES FIGHTING FOR RHODESIAN REGIME

LD061756Y Moscow TASS in English 1747 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, February 6 TASS--The racist Smith regime makes extensive use of mercenaries in the struggle against the Zimbabwe patriots fighting for the freedom and independence of their homeland. At present, the racist army includes more than 11,200 mercenaries. This was stated at a press conference here today by Joshua Nkomo, one of the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front.

He said the Rhodesian Army now numbers 4,500 mercenaries from South Africa, 2,300 from the United States, 2,000 Englishmen, 1,800 Frenchmen and 600 Israeli commandos specially trained in anti-guerrilla warfare.

But despite everything, Joshua Nkomo stressed, the defeat of the racists is inevitable because the Zimbabwe people, headed by the Patriotic Front, is struggling for a just cause, upholding its freedom and independence. And today this struggle is in progress throughout the territory of Zimbabwe.

SRV UN ENVOY RECALLED AFTER U.S. HINDERS 'NORMAL' ACTIVITIES

OW061201Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1000 GMT 6 Feb 78 OW

[Text] The Vietnamese Government has announced its decision to recall Dinh Ba Thi, head of the Vietnamese delegation to the United Nations. At a new conference in Hanoi yesterday, the SRV Foreign Ministry spokesman said the decision was made because the United States was hindering the Vietnamese diplomat's normal activities.

Early last week, the U.S. administration groundlessly accused Comrade Dinh Ba Thi of carrying out espionage activities. The Vietnamese Government has rejected this absurd allegation. The coordinating committee of nonaligned countries to the United Nations has expressed its concern over the U.S. administration's moves. The socialist states at the United Nations have also voiced support for Vietnam.

VIETNAMESE ENVOY GIVES FIRYUBIN STATEMENT ON SRV-CAMBODIAN RELATIONS

LD061734Y Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 6 TASS--Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Nikolay Firyubin today received the ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Moscow, Nguyen Huu Khieu. In the course of their friendly conversation the ambassador presented to Nikolay Firyubin the February 5 statement of the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea.

Statement's Contents Detailed

LD051552Y Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 5 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 5, TASS--A statement of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) on relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea was issued today.

The statement says that the SRV Government's suggestion dated December 31, 1977, on holding a bilateral Vietnamese-Kampuchean meeting at any level at an earliest date to resolve the border question in the spirit of fraternal friendship has been supported by all governments and peoples that cherish peace and justice and by the international public at large. Unfortunately, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea continues categorically to refuse to hold talks. At the same time the Armed Forces of Kampuchea continue making attacks on various inhabited localities in Vietnam's territory. The Kampuchean side is fanning up a campaign of national enmity against Vietnam and is spreading gross slander, accusing the SRV of an aggression against Kampuchea.

The Government of the SRV, the statement emphasizes, is firmly rejecting those slanderous assertions. It is quite evident that the Kampuchean side is deliberately heightening tension on the Vietnamese-Kampuchean border.

The Government of the SRV and the people of Vietnam are again reaffirming their invariable principled stand: Resolutely to defend the independence, freedom, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam as well as to respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of both Kampuchea and other countries.

Wishing to settle relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea as soon as possible, the SRV Government is suggesting the following:

That all hostilities in border areas be immediately ceased, the armed forces of each of the sides should withdraw to a line which is five kilometres from the border inside their territories.

That a meeting be organized in Hanoi or Phnom Penh or at the border between the two countries for talks and for the signing of a treaty with an obligation to respect the independence sovereignty and territorial integrity of each other, to respect the principle of non-attack, non-use of violence or a threat of violence in relations between the two countries, and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other, establish equal relations, live in peace and friendship, and support good-neighbourly relations.

That a treaty on the border between the two countries be signed on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each other within the framework of the existing border line.

[That] understanding be reached on appropriate forms of international guarantee and international control.

For the purposes of creating favourable conditions for talks between the two countries, it is essential to discontinue propaganda in the spirit of stirring up national enmity and put an end to all actions which are detrimental to solidarity and friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

The Government of the SRV is calling on the Government of Democratic Kampuchea to answer in the affirmative to the above-mentioned proposals in the name of vital and lasting interests of the peoples of Kampuchea and Vietnam, in the name of friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

The Government of the SRV is calling on the governments and peoples of countries friendly to Vietnam and Kampuchea, on international organizations and peoples that cherish peace and justice throughout the world, to support the proposals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and make an active contribution to the holding of talks between Vietnam and Kampuchea without delay in the name of peace and security in Southeast Asia and throughout the world.

SRV Stand 'Just, Principled'

OW061741Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 6 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Vietnam has proposed to Cambodia an immediate cease-fire in the border areas, a bilateral troop withdrawal some 5 kilometers from border areas and immediate peace negotiations to settle the border issue. This is the substance of the Vietnamese Government's 5 February statement. Once again, this statement proves that the SRV Government is the initiator of a peaceful settlement of the border conflict. Vietnam clearly stated its readiness to hold peace talks in its statement of 31 December 1977.

In an interview which took place a month ago, SRV Premier Pham Van Dong recalled that Hanoi had on numerous occasions appealed to Phnom Penh to hold peace negotiations to definitively settle the border issue. The problem must be resolved on the basis of complete equality and mutual respect for each other's sovereignty. Comrade Pham Van Dong stressed: "Vietnam and Cambodia are fraternal neighboring countries which united in the struggle against their common enemies together won glorious victories in the cause for national liberation.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
INDOCHINA

With determination to safeguard the steady friendship between the two nations and with goodwill for building together a border of friendship advantageous to the protection of independence and the building of peace in each country, we are ready to sit down unconditionally at the negotiating table with Cambodia.

It is regrettable that the Cambodian side has not responded to this show of goodwill. The Cambodian Armed Forces have continued their attacks on the populated areas of Vietnam. The Cambodian side has also intensified its national hatred campaign against Vietnam. Meanwhile, outside forces have leaped with joy over these developments. Their hope is to intensify the conflict and create greater tension in Southeast Asia.

The SRV Government's 3 February statement once again affirms its just and principled stand to resolutely protect Vietnam's independence, freedom, sovereignty and territorial integrity while respecting the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cambodia and other countries.

Hanoi has proposed to Phnom Penh an end to all hostile acts in the border areas, a bilateral troop withdrawal some 5 kilometers from the border and immediate negotiations for peace. Vietnam has also proposed that Cambodia sign a treaty on the border question on the basis of respect for each other's territorial sovereignty within the existing border, independence and territorial integrity and of refraining from resorting to force and sabotage activities to oppose each other.

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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

N 1

DEMONSTRATIONS, GUERRILLA ATTACK IN NICARAGUA REPORTED

LDO32044Y Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 3 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 3, TASS--The situation in Nicaragua remains tense. The tension was caused by a general strike against the Somoza anti-popular regime.

Actions to demand the dictator's resignation and the restoration of democratic forms of government are assuming an ever larger scale. Particularly stormy protest manifestations are taking place in the cities of Matagalpa and Leon, where barricades were put up in the streets.

There have been clashes between demonstrators and government forces in at least five big cities in the country.

According to a report from the ASSOCIATED PRESS agency, guerrillas of the Sandino National Liberation Front have attacked a national guard garrison in Granda, the country's third largest city. Several national guards have been killed or wounded.

According to other reports, patriots of the front have also captured army barracks in the small town of Rio Blanco, 135 kilometres from Matagalpa.

Elections Labeled 'Gross Farce'

LDO61206Y Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] San Jose, February 6, TASS--Armed to the teeth soldiers patrolling streets, tanks and armoured carriers, round-ups, searches and arrests in workers' quarters--that was the situation in which municipal elections were held yesterday. On the ballot sheets were only the names of candidates from the ruling Liberal-Nationalistic Party. The overwhelming majority of the electors--about 80 percent--refused to participate in that gross farce, staged by dictator Somoza to mislead the international public, to create a semblance of "normalisation" in the country, swept by an unprecedented general strike.

Disturbances in Nicaragua began on January 10, when P. Joaquin Chamorro, leader of the opposition, director of the LA PRENSA newspaper, was killed in Managua. That crime sparked a mighty wave of popular wrath.

The Nicaraguan people demand Somoza's immediate resignation from the presidency and from the post of commander-in-chief of the national guards, restoration of democratic forms of government in the republic.

In a bid to suppress the people's action, the dictator imposed a state of emergency. Hundreds of patriots were killed or wounded, many participants in anti-government manifestations and meetings were put behind prison bars.

Despite bloody terror, the Nicaraguan people continue resolute struggle against the hateful dictator, who keeps in power only thanks to U.S. economic and military support. The recent days in Managua and other towns witnessed armed clashes between soldiers and guerrilla units from the Sandino National Liberation Front. Demonstrations of protest are continuing in the country, participants in these demonstrations demand Somoza's resignation.

1978 CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION WILL DETERMINE 5-YEAR PLAN RESULTS

LD041804Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0424 GMT 4 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 4 February--TASS correspondent Aleksandr Stroganov writes: The fulfillment of this year's capital construction plans will largely decide whether the targets of the 5-year plan (for 1976-1978) are successfully concluded.

The volume of capital investment in the economy will amount to R125.5 billion--3.4 percent above 1977. The size of these plans is indicated by the fact that another 20 towns appear yearly on the country's map, and 8 industrial projects start work weekly.

This year prime attention will be given to commissioning projects which will help to raise the output of products which the country especially needs. This task was set at the December 1977 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

In power generation, units of 11.9 million kilowatt capacity will be commissioned. The first 640,000 kilowatt capacity generator at the Sayano-Shushenskoye GES in Siberia will start work. At the Novovoronezh, Kursk and Chernobyl AES 1 million kilowatt capacity units will be started up.

In ferrous metallurgy it is planned to commission iron-ore mining capacity, a 5,000 cubic meter blast furnace and an 800 [as received] general-purpose mill. The Soyuz gas pipeline from Orenburg (southern Urals) to the USSR Western border, which is being constructed by builders from the CEMA countries, and railroads including the Baykal-Amur Mainline in Siberia will be commissioned.

In the coal mining industry it is planned to commission capacities for mining 23.7 million tons of fuel. One-third of the increment will come from Kazakhstan. The year will be noteworthy for the reconstruction of engineering enterprises. This will permit the increased production of gas and steam turbines, machine tools, motor vehicles, excavators and bearings.

In accordance with the CPSU's policy of raising the Soviet people's living standards, enterprises to produce output of the light, food and meat and dairy industries will be built. In 1978 it is intended to build 110,000 square meters of housing.

HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA REPORTED

LD061426Y Moscow TASS in English 1157 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Dushanbe, February 6, TASS--TASS correspondent Aleksandr Nemirovskiy writes: The construction of Asia's biggest Rogun hydro-electric power station has started in Soviet Tadzhikistan. A high dam will bar the upper reaches of the Vakhsh river, fed by the Pamirs glaciers. Falling water will activate six generating units with a total capacity of 3.6 million kilowatts.

A number of big projects, linked with the use of energy of the Pamirs and Tien Shan highland rivers, are under construction in Soviet Central Asia. The first generating units of the Toktogul station on the Naryn river (Soviet Kirghizia) have been put into operation. The construction of the Nurek electric power plant is drawing to completion--the station already generates current. It is located in the spurs of the Pamirs, below the Rogun station. The total capacity of the hydroelectric power stations now under construction in mountains of Soviet Central Asia will exceed 10 million kilowatts.

Energy of highland electric power stations is used for further industrial development of Soviet Central Asian republics. In Tadzhikistan there is an aluminum smelting plant, the construction of a chemical plant is drawing to a close--in perspective these will be the USSR's largest enterprises. Industrial production in Kirghizia and Uzbekistan will grow by 33-39 per cent by 1980--these are motor vehicles, agricultural machines, machine tools, electronic equipment.

Hydroengineering construction, specialists point out will exert a large impact on the development of agriculture. Dams of electric power stations will keep 50,000 million cubic metres of water, the discharge of which can be regulated. This will make it possible to turn vast lands of Soviet Central Asia into guaranteed farming areas.

MARITIME FLEET TO GET NEW SHIPS; MILLION-TON TOTAL CAPACITY

LD282058Y Moscow TASS in English 1916 GMT 28 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 28, TASS--New ships with a total carrying capacity of a million tonnes will be added to the Soviet Merchant Marine this year, a TASS correspondent was told at the Ministry of the Merchant Marine. Many of them will be tankers.

A new tanker with a carrying capacity of 150,000 tonnes will be added to four others of the same capacity--"the Crimea," "Kuban," and the "Caucasus," and "Kuzbas." The new tanker will be named the "Krivbas" after the Krivoy Rog coalfields. The vessel will be three hundred meters long while its hull together with its superstructure will be as high as a 15-16-storey house. Its main turbo set will have a capacity of 20,000 h.p. and the tanker's speed will be 16 knots.

The series of tankers with a deadweight of 40,000 tonnes keeps growing. It is being built to Soviet order in Yugoslavia. These vessels are named after outstanding leaders of the international communist and working-class movement.

A vessel of a new advanced design, "Boris Butoma," was launched recently at the Nikolayev shipyards. It is intended for carrying not only oil but also ore. The carrying capacity of this all-purpose vessel will be a hundred thousand tonnes. The oil and ore carrier has up-to-date equipment. A similar ship, Academician "Krylov," will be put into service this year.

Soviet tankers are built in strict conformity with international standard from protecting the world ocean from pollution. Thus most of these vessels have hulls of special design preventing oil from spilling even in case of damage to the tanker.

The Soviet Merchant Marine now has 1,800 vessels with a total carrying capacity of over 160 million tonnes. In 1974, Soviet Merchant Marine ships carried 4 million tonnes of cargoes while the figure for last year was over 220 million tonnes.

BRIEFS

AMURSKAYA OBLAST AIR ROUTES--A new air route between Blagoveshchensk and Moscow was inaugurated today. The journey to Moscow by railway express takes 5.5 days, whereas the trip by air takes only 11 hours. Flight No 48 is the third flight linking the oblast with Moscow and will operate on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 20 Jan 78 OW]

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INCREASED PRODUCTION OF SOYA BEANS SET FOR EUROPEAN USSR

LD041834Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 4 Feb 78 LD

[Summary] A program has been worked out in our country to strengthen the fodder base of livestock farming. Yuriy Petrovich Buryakov, deputy chief of the main administration of land use of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture says:

[Buryakov--recorded] The main area traditionally sown to soya in our country is in the Far East: About 96 percent of this crop is grown in this region. The farms of Amurskaya Oblast and Khabarovsk and the maritime rayons have the best climate for its cultivation. However, there are slight difficulties related to the high acidity of the soil and early frosts. Consequently the question arose of creating new zones of soya production in the European part of the country.

At the moment in the European part of the country, particularly in Moldavia, south Ukraine, North Caucasus and the Volga region, frontrankers have appeared who are achieving high soya harvests. One such frontranker managed an average of 30 quintals per hectare. But there are often complaints that there is a lack of soya strains bred for the European part and these claims have some basis. At the moment production is based on strains brought from the Far East or imported strains and only an insignificant amount is occupied by domestically selected strains. But recently scientific and research institutions have been paying more attention to the selection of soya and strains have already begun to reach farms which are suitable for the climatic conditions in our country as well as the level of technology which can be applied. Still we are not content and are doing everything to provide in the future strains with a potential harvest of 25-30 quintals.

A special decision of the Central Committee and the Council of Ministers has been made on the problem of increasing the small soya harvest. The volume of production and the necessary material and technical resources for obtaining the planned volume have been determined. The preconditions have been set for a sharp increase in the production of soya and for the creation of a new zone of production for this crop.

An example can be seen in the fact that in 1978 farms in Krasnodarskiy Kray plan to sow more than 10,000 hectares of soya. [end recording]

AGRICULTURE PLEDGES FOR 1978 SEEK INCREASE IN PRODUCTION

Belorussian Pledges

LD030959Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] Guided by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum and the provisions and conclusions set out in the speech by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and in answer to the letter from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee "on launching socialist competition for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the 1978 plan and intensifying the struggle to raise production efficiency and work quality," the working people of Belorussia adopt the following socialist pledges for 1978:

In agriculture, to insure the further intensification of production and to implement a set of measures to raise the standard of cropgrowing and the productivity of livestock raising, to obtain 29-30 quintals of grain, 170 quintals of potatoes, 2 quintals of sugar beets, and 5.3 quintals of flax fiber per hectare. To achieve in kolkhozes and sovkhoses a total harvest of 8-8.5 million tons of grain, at least 7 million tons of potatoes, 1.28 million tons of sugar beets and 128,000 tons of flax fiber. To provide high quality fodder for stockraising and to procure 38 quintals of fodder per head of stock. To produce in kolkhozes and sovkhoses 1,031,000 tons of meat and 4,378,000 tons of milk.

To sell 1.47 million tons of grain and 124,000 tons of flax fiber to the state. To fulfill targets for the purchase of potatoes, meat, milk, eggs and wool. To sell to the state 114,000 tons of potatoes, 50,000 tons of livestock and poultry, 230,000 tons of milk and 100 million eggs above plan.

Kazakhstan Pledges

LD061105Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 78 PP 1-2 LD

[Excerpts] Guided by the resolution of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum and the provisions and conclusions contained in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the plenum, and also in response to the letter from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee "on launching socialist competition for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the 1978 plan and intensifying the struggle to raise production efficiency and work quality," the working people of Kazakhstan are adopting the following socialist pledges:

In agriculture: On the basis of further production specialization and concentration and the introduction of intensive farming methods, 26-27 million tons of grain are to be produced in 1978 and the total volume of grain sales to the state is to be overfulfilled. Some 390,000 tons of rice, 323,000 tons of raw cotton, 2.4 million tons of sugar beets, 650,000 tons of vegetables, 390,000 tons of potatoes, 1.38 million tons of meat and poultry, 2.15 million tons of milk, 1.75 billion eggs and 2.3 million astrakhan pelts are to be sold to the state which is more than the total volume of procurements of these products.

MOSCOW RADIO AGRICULTURAL REPORTS FOR 5-6 FEBRUARY

LD070404 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1750 GMT on 5 February reports that the country's farmers are paying a great deal of attention to preparing the spring crop seed for sowing. In Moldavia, the radio reports, 97 percent of the pulse crops have been brought up to first and second class sowing standard.

At 1900 GMT the radio informs that kolhozes and sovkhoses in Omskaya Oblast have overhauled 23,000 tractors. Farms in Penzenskaya Oblast have prepared 370,000 tons of seeds for spring sowing. The majority of these are of first and second class.

FEARS SPREAD BY SOME WESTERN PAPERS OVER COSMOS-954 DISCOUNTED

LD061344Y Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

["Who Is To Profit by This?--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 6, TASS--TASS news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

A number of organs of the international press continue commenting on the fall of the Soviet satellite "Cosmos-954". Official circles in many countries and the press stress, and with good reason, the great and inevitable difficulties involved in the implementation of space research programs and say that the steps taken by the Soviet Union in connection with the "Cosmos-954" accident fully agree with the principles and spirit of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space. At the same time, some circles in the West are still trying to use this episode as a fresh excuse for stepping up an anti-Soviet campaign, for fabricating and spreading all kind of inventions. Certain organs of the bourgeois press go as far as to declare the "Cosmos-954" to be something like a flying nuclear bomb which represents a "threat to mankind".

The absurdity and harmfulness of such statements was exposed recently once more by Academician Leonid Sedov, a prominent Soviet scientist. Speaking in a TASS interview this world-known scientist stressed that the Soviet Union strictly observes the provisions of the treaty of 1967 on the principles guiding the activities of states in the exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies and imposing a ban on the orbiting of any objects with nuclear weapons or other types of mass destruction weapons around the earth. He said that the "Cosmos-954" did not and could not carry any weapons, and the fact that this satellite ceased to exist over the northern region of Canada created no dangers for the population of this region.

Now, after Academician Leonid Sedov's statement, the absurdity of the inventions which are still spread by some people in the West in connection with the fall of the "Cosmos-954" has become more apparent. The question arises however: Why did the circles which are now working up all kind of fears over the Soviet satellite under the pretext of "concern" for the security of almost the whole population of the world, fail to display similar "concern" when other accidents took place in the West, accidents, which according to competent specialists, created a real and sometimes very serious danger, and not a mythical one, for the population of certain regions? Why should not the lovers of all kind of frightening "sensations" recall facts when American bombers dropped "accidentally" atomic bombs over the states of Georgia and North Carolina or when a B-58 [as received] bomber with a hydrogen bomb on board caught fire in the air over Indiana State? Why did the lovers of such "sensations", far from playing up, try in every way to suppress the accident with an American bomber B-52 which had four nuclear bombs on board and which crashed in the area of Almeria (Spain) in 1966, or a similar episode with another American Air Force plane which had four hydrogen bombs on board and which crashed on the ice off the western coast of Greenland two years later?

Or why should not they concern themselves, say, with those regions of the Atlantic where a number of American firms dumped containers with nuclear waste products, a fact which greatly worries competent scientists and specialists who point to the danger of pollution of oceanic waters with radioactive substances?

What is more, they in the West, specifically in the USA, know well--and this was confirmed at a recent conference at the State Department--that prior to the accident suffered by the Soviet satellite, similar things happened in space more than once to American satellites with nuclear power units and not Soviet ones.

Thus, it is quite clear that the fuss raised over the "Cosmos-954" was in fact prompted by a desire to use this episode as an excuse for working up fears and fanning up anti-Sovietism and not by "concern for security" (the less so that it has already been proved irrefutably that the "Cosmos-954" accident represents no danger to anyone. What aims are served by this campaign? In any case, not the aims of strengthening trust and goodneighbor relations between peoples. As was stressed by Academician Leonid Sedov in his interview, people who circulate absurd rumors over the "Cosmos-954" and are trying to cash in on them undermine the basic foundations of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space and do serious harm to the cause of strengthening mutual trust and understanding between the peoples.

PROGRESS-1 'AUTOMATIC AND APPROACH SYSTEM' TO BE TESTED

LD061518Y Moscow TASS in English 1445 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 6, TASS--Special TASS correspondent Nikolay Zheleznov reports from the flight control centre:

The first cargo port in orbit operated for two weeks. Now the hatch connecting for fifteen days the cargoship Progress-1 with the station Salyut-6 is closed. It is not easy to work at a cargo port in outer space, said Cosmonaut Yuriy Romaneko, but we were able to test the systems that are absolutely essential for effective space research.

Commenting on the completion of a new stage of the program Aleksey Yeliseyev, the flight director, said that during their eight weeks in orbit the main crew and the visiting crew demonstrated qualitatively new possibilities of both the station and the orbital complex as a whole.

The Progress-1 after emptying all its holds and reservoirs from cargo, was turned into a pusher last Sunday. The tanks of the Progress-1 propulsion units contained reserve fuel supplies. It was decided to use them so that the Progress-1 could push the entire orbital complex into a new orbit. On command from the earth, the ship's propulsion engines were switched on to give the entire complex a certain acceleration and to push it into a new orbit.

At the request of designers the cosmonauts carried out an important experiment. They tested once more the strength of the entire space construction consisting of three parts--the orbital station and two ships. For this purpose the cosmonauts, jumping along the running track with a preset frequency, transferred certain oscillations to the entire space complex. The pickups installed at different places recorded how the entire construction behaved itself under such dynamic loads.

With the switching on of the undocking program, the grips of the docking assemblies were freed and the Progress-1 began separating slowly from the station. But before switching on its retrorocket engines, removing it from orbit and sinking it in a safe region of the Pacific (this operation is scheduled for February 8) the designers gave it one more useful assignment.

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One orbit after the undocking when the ship 12-15 kilometres away from the station, it is decided to test the back-up automatic and approach system which had been never tried in a real space flight before.

SCIENTIFIC VESSELS TRACK SPACE FLIGHTS, WORK AUTOMATIC CONTROLS

LD032118Y Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 3 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 3, TASS--The Soviet fleet of scientific vessels will be supplemented with the new vessels "Cosmonaut Pavel Belyaev", "Cosmonaut Georgiy Dobrovolskiy", "Cosmonaut Viktor Patsaev."

The existing three large scientific floating centres--"Cosmonaut Yuriy Gagarin", "Cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov", and "Academic Sergey Korolev" are capable not only of tracking space flights and relaying information to the ground but also of conducting autonomous flight control. There are huge globes over the decks of each of these ships--receiving and transmitting antennas in special spherical covers. The antennas are the basis of all types of communication with outer space.

The equipment of floating scientific centres can be subdivided into different sections. First, it includes a radio technical complex whose purpose is to issue commands in the regime of automatic control of the flights from the ground and measuring of the trajectory (orbit) of the flight.

The equipment of a floating scientific centre includes an electron computing complex combined with a system of automatic processing of incoming information. The vessels have high capacity receiving and transmitting radio centre which also include the system for communication with sputniks. The radio centre ensures reliable and steady communication with spacecraft.

All these vessels can sail in the world ocean for many months in any weather.

In addition to the three biggest scientific vessels, the fleet includes many vessels with a displacement from 6 to 9 thousands tons. These vessels have a more modest task, that of collecting telemetric information, processing it and relaying it to the ground and also of radio communication with cosmonauts.

BRIEFS

FORECASTING EARTHQUAKES--Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, February 6, TASS--Soviet scientists from the Sakhalin Integrated Institute of the Far Eastern Centre of the USSR Academy of Sciences have developed a method of forecasting earthquakes. Twelve out of their fourteen forecasts proved correct. Fedor Monakhov, head of the Department of Seismology at the institute, said that this was accomplished for the first time in world practice by means of the hydrogeodynamic method. On Kunashir Island (the Kuril Islands), the scientist organized a continuous recording of the water level in several deep wells linked with water-bearing underground seams. A drop of water level in the wells is observed three-seven days before an earthquake. This process intensifies as the earthquake approaches. Distant earthquakes, too, cause changes in the water level. Using this method it is possible to determine not only the time but also the place of earth tremors. This requires the sinking of a network of wells at a sufficient distance from one another. Work in the direction is already under way on Kuril Islands. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD]

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FURTHER REPORTAGE ON MILITARY MANEUVERS IN BELORUSSIA

Aim of Maneuvers

LDO41446Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 4 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] Exercises of the troops of the Red-Banner Belorussian Military District will be held under the codename "Berezina" from 6 to 10 February in the Minsk-Orsha-Polotsk area.

In a TASS interview Lieutenant General of Tank Troops Semirenko, first deputy commander of the district's troops, said: The exercises are being held in accordance with the plan for combat training and are designed to work out the interaction of various arms of troops and solve complex tasks. The exercises will be an important step in further raising the field training of units and sub-units and perfecting techniques in modern warfare, in which the highest intensity of all moral and physical forces is required.

First Day of Exercise

LDO61310Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Our special correspondents Aleksandr Krutov and Konstantin Retinskiy report:

Today is the first day of the exercises. The "northern" and "southern" troops have gone to their starting positions and the advance detachments have commenced combat actions. The units and subunits involved in the exercises are operating under difficult conditions. In the exercise area the snow is up to 1.5 meters deep.

The terrain here is crisscrossed with bogs, and water obstacles are frequently encountered. For this reason right from the start of the fighting engineering subunits have been assigned difficult tasks. Success will be determined by the exceptional skill of the drivers of the tanks, armored personnel carriers and other combat vehicles.

Reports reaching the exercise headquarters testify to the fact that the servicemen of the Red Banner Belorussian Military District are successfully undergoing this examination in the art of warfare. They are fulfilling with honor their decision to mark the glorious 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces with excellent results in combat and political training.

Foreign Observers Tour Minsk

LDO61800Y Moscow TASS in English 1749 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Minsk, February 6, TASS--Military observers invited to this country to attend exercises by the troops of the Belorussian Military District, which started today, laid wreaths at the monument to Soviet soldiers and partisans, who had displayed courage and heroism in battles to liberate the country from the German-Nazi invaders.

After that the guests paid a visit to the mayor of Minsk, S. Lukashevich. In the evening the military observers visited an army firing range and the district's sports complex.

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